





Class 815.75

Book 185

1827















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THE LIFE  
OF  
JOHN LOCKE.

LONDON :  
PRINTED BY S. AND R. BENTLEY,  
Dorset Street, Fleet Street.





Greenhill pinx.<sup>d</sup>

Worthington sculp.<sup>d</sup>

*John Locke*

*"Absolute Liberty, just & true Liberty,  
equal & impartial Liberty."*



THE LIFE  
OF  
JOHN LOCKE,  
WITH EXTRACTS FROM  
HIS CORRESPONDENCE, JOURNALS,  
AND  
COMMON-PLACE BOOKS.  
BY LORD KING.

LITERIS INNUTRITUS, EOUSQUE TANTUM PROFECI UT VERITATI UNICÈ LITAREM.

LONDON:  
HENRY COLBURN, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.  
1829.



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## P R E F A C E.

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AFTER the death of Locke, his papers, correspondence, and manuscripts, came into the possession of Sir Peter King, his near relation and sole executor. They consist of the originals of many of his printed works, and of some which were never published; of his very extensive correspondence with his friends, both in England and abroad; of a journal which he kept during his travels in France and Holland; of his common-place books; and of many miscellaneous papers; all of which have been preserved in the same scrutoir in which they had been deposited by their author, and which was probably removed to this place in 1710.

The works of Locke are universally known, but the individual himself is much less so; I have therefore thought that a more detailed account of his life would contribute to increase, if possible, the fame of that truly great and good man. The friends of freedom will excuse the attempt from the veneration they feel for the man, and for the cause which he defended; they will be anxious to know more of one who so much promoted the general improve-

ment of mankind; and they will learn with pleasure that his character was as pure and as exalted as his talents were great and useful.

There are, however, others who would fain keep mankind in a state of perpetual pupillage, who, carrying their favourite doctrine of passive obedience into all our spiritual as well as temporal concerns, would willingly deliver us over in absolute subjection, for the one to the rulers of the Church, and for the other to the rulers of the State. These men cannot be expected to entertain any admiration for the champion of reason and truth, nor from them can I hope for any approbation or favour in the present undertaking.

It is impossible, after the lapse of one hundred and thirty years, to portray with accuracy those minute features of character which make biography often so interesting when sketched by the hand of contemporaries and friends. The most authentic account of Locke, which has hitherto been published, is to be found in the "*Bibliothèque Choisie*" of 1716, written by Le Clerc, about twelve years after the death of his friend. In the present attempt, the order of events, and in part also the narrative of Le Clerc, has been followed; and I have endeavoured from the letters and memorials which still remain, to make Mr. Locke, as far as possible, his own biographer.

It is necessary to observe, respecting the arrangement of the materials, that in general the letters are inserted according to their dates, but keeping each correspondence separate; the journal is introduced at that period of the author's life when it was written; it exists in the form of small separate volumes for each year, from

1675 to 1688, and appears to have served the double purpose of a Journal and Common-place book, during his residence abroad; containing many dissertations evidently written at the moment when the thoughts occurred. The reader will find the two first of these in their original place in the Journal, but as the article on Study was extended to a great length, broken into many parts, and not brought to a conclusion without several interruptions, I thought it better to collect the whole together, and to place that, as well as all the remaining dissertations and opinions, at the end of the Journal.

The extracts from the Common-place Books; the Miscellaneous Papers; a small part, as a specimen, of an unpublished work in defence of Nonconformity, and an epitome of his Essay on Human Understanding, drawn up by Locke himself, will be found at the end of the Life. Without presuming to express any opinion of the merits of these writings, I may be excused for saying, that the excellent and highly-finished article *ERROR*, in the Common-place Book, and that on *STUDY* in the Journal, are both worthy of Mr. Locke.

It appears from the character of the hand-writing in Mr. Locke's original sketches, that after having well considered his subject, he was able at once, without the least hesitation, to draw upon his own ample resources, and striking out his work, as it were, at a heat, to write down his thoughts, *currente calamo*, without difficulty, hesitation, or impediment. Perhaps this decision of the author, proceeding from his habit of previous reflection, and from his devotion to the cause of truth, gives to his writings that peculiar spirit which distinguishes them. His works, intended



for publication, had of course the advantage of revision and correction ; but as many of the following were extemporaneous thoughts committed hastily to paper and never afterwards corrected, the reader will make allowance for any inaccuracies that he may find in them.

Some persons may think that too many, and others that too few of the letters have been published ; the great difficulty was to make a selection, and to show, without fatiguing the reader, the interest which was felt by Mr. Locke on so many different questions, the versatility of his genius, and the variety of his occupations. Of the letters from different correspondents found amongst Mr. Locke's papers, the whole of those from Sir Isaac Newton, and the greater part of those from Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Peterbough are now printed. Of the remainder nearly one hundred are from Limborch ; perhaps double that number from Monsieur Toinard, containing the scientific news of Paris from 1679 for several years following ; many from Le Clerc ; from M. Gue-  
nelon, of Amsterdam ; from Lord Ashley, afterwards the third Earl of Shaftesbury ; from Mr. Tyrrel and Dr. Thomas, Mr. Clark of Chipstead, to whom the *Thoughts on Education* were addressed ; and from A. Collins, &c. &c., amounting altogether to some thousands in number. The desire of keeping this publication within reasonable bounds, has prevented the publication of more than a very few of these letters.

Ockham, April 24th, 1829.

## CONTENTS.

---

	Page
LIFE OF JOHN LOCKE . . . . .	1
Letter from Locke to his Father . . . . .	2
Letter from Locke to a Friend . . . . .	11
Correspondence with Mr. John Strachy, Sutton Court, Bristol . . . . .	13
Letters from Lord Shaftesbury to Locke . . . . .	33
Letters of Charles II. to Sir George Downing . . . . .	38
 EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OF LOCKE . . . . .	 41
Obligation of Penal Laws . . . . .	57
Knowledge, its Extent and Measure . . . . .	84
Study . . . . .	90
England.—1679. . . . .	133
Letter of Lord Shaftesbury . . . . .	138
Devon Session . . . . .	145
Correspondence between the Earl of Sunderland and the Bishop of Oxford respecting Locke . . . . .	150
Letters of the Earl of Pembroke . . . . .	158
Letters from Tyrrell to Locke . . . . .	169
Letter of Locke to Lord Mordaunt . . . . .	173
Petition of Locke to his Majesty . . . . .	176
Letters of Lord Ashley to Mr. Locke . . . . .	183
Letter of John Wynne to Mr. Locke . . . . .	189
Mr. Locke's Answer . . . . .	191

	Page
Mr. Tyrrell to Locke . . . . .	192
Mr. Locke to Mr. Tyrrell . . . . .	197
A Demonstration that the Planets, by their Gravity towards the Sun, may move in Ellipses . . . . .	209
Letters of Sir Isaac Newton . . . . .	215
Locke to Newton . . . . .	224
Remarks on Sir Isaac Newton's Three Letters . . . . .	227
Mr. Somers to Mr. Locke . . . . .	234
The Earl of Monmouth to Mr. Locke . . . . .	235
The Earl of Peterborough to Mr. Locke . . . . .	239
Lord Somers to Mr. Locke . . . . .	241
Letter of Sir William Trumbull . . . . .	243
Lord Keeper Somers to Mr. Locke . . . . .	245
Mr. Locke's Letters to Lord Somers . . . . .	ib.
Letter to Mr. Cudworth . . . . .	249
Letters of Mr. Locke to P. King, Esq. . . . .	251
Character of Locke . . . . .	267
Pacific Christians . . . . .	273

#### EXTRACTS FROM LOCKE'S COMMON-PLACE BOOK.

Error . . . . .	281
Sacerdos . . . . .	285
Amor Patriæ . . . . .	291
Scriptura Sacra . . . . .	293
Electio . . . . .	295

#### MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS.

Judging—Election—Resolution . . . . .	296
On the Difference between Civil and Ecclesiastical Power . . . . .	297
Civil Society, or the State . . . . .	298



	Page
Religious Society, or the Church . . . . .	298
The Parallel . . . . .	299
Thus I think . . . . .	304
Of Ethics in General . . . . .	306
Supplement to the Mode of acquiring Truth . . . . .	315
Letter of Mr. Leclerc to Locke . . . . .	318
Mr. Locke's Answer . . . . .	319
Species . . . . .	321
Understanding—Arguments positive and negative . . . . .	322
An Essay concerning Recreation . . . . .	323
Memory—Imagination—Madness . . . . .	326
Madness . . . . .	328
Error . . . . .	329
Space—1677 . . . . .	<i>ib.</i>
Relation—Space 1678 . . . . .	331
Adversaria Theologica . . . . .	336
Non Trinitas . . . . .	<i>ib.</i>
Christus non Deus supremus . . . . .	338
Defence of Nonconformity . . . . .	341
Additions intended to have been added by the Author to the Essay on the Human	
Understanding . . . . .	354
View of the Essay . . . . .	362

PORTRAIT OF JOHN LOCKE . . . . . FAC SIMILES OF THE HAND-WRITING OF JOHN LOCKE, EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, AND SIR ISAAC NEWTON . . . . .	To face the Title.      Page 1
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*The Limits of the Hand Writing of  
John Locke Sir Isaac Newton & the Earl of Shaftesbury.*

<sup>yr memory is very</sup>  
weak, such simple Ideas quickly fade & vanish  
quite out of yr understanding, & leave it as  
clear without any foot-steps or remaining  
characters, as shadows do fly over fields  
of corn. & yr mind is as void of them as  
if they never had been there.

\* \* \* \* \*  
The Ideas of well as children of our youth  
die before us, & our minds represent <sup>often</sup>  
to us those things to which we are approaching  
where things yr brain & memory remain yet  
the miscripings are effaced by time & yr  
imagery mends away. The pictures drawn  
on our minds are laid in fading colours  
& if not sometimes refreshed <sup>renewed</sup> fade & disappear

Your most humble servant

Is. Newton

Your most affectionate friend  
& servant

Shaftesbury

# THE LIFE

OF

## JOHN LOCKE.

---

JOHN LOCKE was born at Wrington, in Somersetshire, A. D. 1632 ; his father, Mr. J. Locke, who was descended from the Lockes of Charton Court, in Dorsetshire, possessed a moderate landed property at Pensfold and Belluton, where he lived. He was a Captain in the Parliamentary army during the Civil Wars, and his fortune suffered so considerably in those times, that he left a smaller estate to his son than he himself had inherited.

John Locke was the eldest of two sons, and was educated with great care by his father, of whom he always spoke with the greatest respect and affection. In the early part of his life, his father exacted the utmost respect from his son, but gradually treated him with less and less reserve, and when grown up, lived with him on terms of the most entire friendship ; so much so, that Locke mentioned the fact of his father having expressed his regret for giving way to his anger, and striking him once in his childhood, when he did not deserve it. In a letter to a friend, written in the latter part of his life, Locke thus expresses himself

on the conduct of a father towards his son : “ That which I have often blamed as an indiscreet and dangerous practice in many fathers, viz. to be very indulgent to their children whilst they are little, and as they come to ripe years to lay great restraint upon them, and live with greater reserve towards them, which usually produces an ill understanding between father and son, which cannot but be of bad consequences ; and I think fathers would generally do better, as their sons grow up, to take them into a nearer familiarity, and live with them with as much freedom and friendship as their age and temper will allow.” The following letter from Locke to his father, which is without a date, but must have been written before 1660, shows the feeling of tenderness and affection which subsisted between them. It was probably found by Locke amongst his father’s papers, and thus came again into his possession.

Dec. 20.

“ MOST DEAR AND EVER-LOVING FATHER,

“ I did not doubt but that the noise of a very dangerous sickness here would reach you, but I am alarmed with a more dangerous disease from Pensford, and were I as secure of your health as (I thank God) I am of my own, I should not think myself in danger ; but I cannot be safe so long as I hear of your weakness, and that increase of your malady upon you, which I beg that you would, by the timely application of remedies, endeavour to remove. Dr. Meary has more than once put a stop to its encroachment ; the same skill, the same means, the same God to bless you, is left still. Do not, I beseech you, by that care you ought to have of yourself, by that tenderness I am sure you have of us, neglect your own, and our safety too ; do not, by a too pressing care for your children, endanger the only comfort they have left. I cannot distrust that Providence which hath conducted us thus far, and if either your disappointments or necessities shall reduce us to narrower conditions than you could wish, content shall enlarge it ; therefore, let not these thoughts distress you. There is nothing that I have which can be so well employed as to his use, from whom I first received it ; and if your convenience can leave me nothing else, I shall have a head, and hands, and industry still left me, which alone have been able to raise suffi-



cient fortunes. Pray, Sir, therefore, make your life as comfortable and lasting as you can ; let not any consideration of us cast you into the least despondency. If I have any reflections on, or desires of free and competent subsistence, it is more in reference to another (whom you may guess) to whom I am very much obliged, than for myself ; but no thoughts, how important soever, shall make me forget my duty ; and a father is more than all other relations ; and the greatest satisfaction I can propose to myself in the world, is my hopes that you may yet live to receive the return of some comfort, for all that care and indulgence you have placed in,

“ Sir, your most obedient son,

J. L.”

It would have been more in the order of time, to have stated that Locke was sent to Westminster School, and from thence to Christ Church, Oxford, in 1651. His friend, Mr. Tyrrell, the grandson of the celebrated Usher, Archbishop of Armagh, relates that Locke, in the earliest period of his residence at Oxford, was distinguished for his talents and learning, amongst his fellow-students. That he lost much time at Oxford is, however, certain, from his own confession ; and if he derived little advantage from the place of his education, it cannot be ascribed to the inaptitude of his mind to make useful acquirements ; the fault is to be found in his instructors, and in their system. It appears that he would have thought the method of Des Cartes preferable (though no admirer of his philosophy) to that of the established practice, either because the study of that writer gave him the first taste for philosophy, or because he admired the distinctness of his method ; or, perhaps, he might consider any alteration to be an improvement, and any change a change for the better.

Although he acquired this early reputation at the University, yet he was often heard to express his regret that his father had ever sent him to Oxford ; aware, from his own experience, that the method of instruction then pursued was ill calculated to open the understanding, or prepare the way for any useful knowledge.

What, indeed, could the false philosophy of the schools, and their vain disputation, profit the man who was afterwards to be

distinguished above all other men, for his devoted love of truth, of unshackled inquiry, and of philosophy.

In the different systems of education, there may be that which is pernicious, that which is only useless, and that which is really useful. Perhaps the antient method may, without injustice, be classed under the first description; and the modern method, as a state of transition between the useless and the useful, far superior to what it once was, but still capable of great improvement.

That Locke regretted his education at Oxford, is stated upon the authority of his friend Le Clerc. Perhaps too much stress has been laid upon some accidental expressions, or rather, that the regrets expressed by Locke, ought to have been understood by Le Clerc to apply to the plan of education then generally pursued at English universities; for to Oxford, even as Oxford was in the days of Locke, he must have been considerably indebted. The course of study and the philosophy, bad as it was, fortunately did not attract much of his attention, and his mind escaped the trammels of the schools, and their endless perplexities and sophistry. If the system of education did not offer assistance, or afford those directions so useful to the young student, the residence at Oxford did, no doubt, confer ease, and leisure, and the opportunity of other studies; it afforded also the means of intercourse with persons, from whose society and conversation, we know, that the idea of his great work first arose.

It may be said, without offence to that antient University, that Locke, though educated within her walls, was much more indebted to himself than to his instructors, and that he was in himself an instance of that self teaching, always the most efficient and valuable, which he afterwards so strongly recommends. In answer to a letter from the Earl of Peterborough, who had applied to him to recommend a tutor for his son, he says: "I must beg leave to own that I differ a little from your Lordship in what you propose; your Lordship would have a thorough scholar, and I think it not much matter whether he be any great scholar or no; if he but



understand Latin well, and have a general scheme of the sciences, I think that enough: but I would have him well-bred, well-tempered; a man that having been conversant with the world and amongst men, would have great application in observing the humour and genius of my Lord your son; and omit nothing that might help to form his mind, and dispose him to virtue, knowledge, and industry. This I look upon as the great business of a tutor; this is putting life into his pupil, which when he has got, masters of all kinds are easily to be had; for when a young gentleman has got a relish of knowledge, the love and credit of doing well spurs him on; he will with or without teachers, make great advances in whatever he has a mind to. Mr. Newton learned his mathematics only of himself; and another friend of mine, Greek (wherein he is very well skilled) without a master; though both these studies seem more to require the help of a tutor than almost any other." In a letter to the same person on the same subject, 1697, he says: "When a man has got an entrance into any of the sciences, it will be time then to depend on himself, and rely upon his own understanding, and exercise his own faculties, which is the only way to improvement and mastery." After recommending the study of history, he farther says: "The great end of such histories as Livy, is to give an account of the actions of man as embodied in society, and so of the true foundation of politics; but the flourishings and decays of commonwealths depending not barely on the present time for what is done within themselves, but most commonly on remote and precedent constitution and events, and a train of concurrent actions amongst their neighbours as well as themselves; the order of time is absolutely necessary to a due knowledge and improvement of history, as the order of sentences in an author is necessary to be kept, to make any sense of what he says. With the reading of history, I think the study of morality should be joined; I mean not the ethics of the schools fitted to dispute, but such as Tully in his *Offices*, Puffendorf de *Officio Hominis et Civis*, de *Jure Naturali et Gentium*, and above all, what the New Testament teaches, wherein

a man may learn to live, which is the business of ethics, and not how to define and dispute about names of virtues and vices. True politics I look on as a part of moral philosophy, which is nothing but the art of conducting men right in society, and supporting a community amongst its neighbours."

To return to Locke's habits and life at Oxford. Le Clerc mentions, that his very early friends and companions were selected from amongst the lively and agreeable, rather than the learned of his time; and that the correspondence with which he frequently amused himself with them, had a resemblance in style and expression to the French of Voiture, although perhaps not so finished and refined as that of the French author. His letters on Toleration, and his replies to the Bishop of Worcester, show his force of argument, and his powers of wit and irony, confined always within the bounds of the most perfect civility and decorum.

The earliest of Locke's printed works is the *Essay on Human Understanding*: the original copy, in his own handwriting, dated 1671, is still preserved, and I find the first sketch of that work in his *Common-place Book*, beginning thus:—

"*Sic cogitavit de intellectu humano Johannes Locke an. 1671.*  
*Intellectus humanus cum cognitionis certitudine et assensus firmitate.*

"First, I imagine that all knowledge is founded on, and ultimately derives itself from sense, or something analogous to it, and may be called sensation, which is done by our senses conversant about particular objects, which gives us the simple ideas or images of things, and thus we come to have ideas of heat and light, hard and soft, which are nothing but the reviving again in our minds these imaginations, which those objects, when they affected our senses, caused in us,—whether by motion or otherwise, it matters not here to consider,—and thus we do, when we conceive heat or light, yellow or blue, sweet or bitter, and therefore, I think that those things which we call sensible qualities, are the simplest ideas we have, and the

first object of our understanding." The Essay must therefore have remained in the author's possession above eighteen years before he gave it to the world, and in that space of time considerable corrections and alterations had been made. His earliest work, however, was of a political nature, and of a date much anterior, and although evidently intended for publication, was never printed. It was written towards the end of 1660; the preface to the reader is curious, as the earliest specimen of his style and opinions, and strongly shows the desire of reasonable men of all parties to remove the difficulties which stood in the way of a final and peaceable settlement of affairs in State and Church. One of the first and most necessary measures after the Restoration, and one of the most difficult, was the settlement of the Church. The King, by his Declaration, had promised that endeavours should be used to effect a comprehension, and that such alteration should be made in the Liturgy, as should make it totally unobjectionable. The tract which Locke wrote, was intended to reconcile the low church party to an obedience to the civil magistrate in all indifferent things in public worship, not otherwise commanded by the word of God. It is an answer to a writer who denied the right of the civil magistrate (or supreme power) to interfere in matters of religion; and in manner and style it resembles his later controversy with Sir Robert Filmer. It is an important fact in the history of toleration, that Dr. Owen, the Independent, was Dean of Christ Church in 1651, when Locke was admitted a member of that college "under a fanatical tutor," as A. Wood says in "*Athenæ Oxonienses*." The charge of fanaticism made against the tutor is either an unfounded assertion of the learned but prejudiced antiquary of Oxford; or, if true, the fanaticism of the tutor had not the slightest effect on the mind of the pupil, as the bias in this treatise inclines, perhaps, too decidedly towards the side of authority. Great concessions are made in order to avoid the danger of civil discord, and for the sake of religious peace, which the author feared might be endangered by the



zealots of the Millennium, and, as he expresses himself, “that the several bands of saints would not want Venners to lead them on in the work of the Lord.” The subject of the treatise was this:—

“Question :—Whether the civil magistrate may lawfully impose and determine the use of indifferent things in reference to Religious Worship?”

In the preface, the author thus expresses himself, “As for myself, there is no one can have a greater respect and veneration for authority than I. I no sooner perceived myself in the world, but I found myself in a storm, which has lasted almost hitherto, and therefore cannot but entertain the approaches of a calm with the greatest joy and satisfaction; and this, methinks, obliges me both in duty and gratitude to endeavour the continuance of such a blessing by disposing men’s minds to obedience to that government, which has brought with it the quiet settlement which even our giddy folly had put beyond the reach not only of our contrivance but hopes; and I would, men would be persuaded to be so kind to their religion, their country and themselves, as not to hazard again, the substantial blessings of peace and settlement in an over zealous contention about things which they themselves confess to be little, and at most are but indifferent.

\* \* \* \* \*

But since I find that a general freedom is but a general bondage, that the popular assertors of public liberty are the greatest ingrossers of it too, and not unfitly called its keepers, I know not whether experience would not give us some reason to think, that were the part of freedom contended for by our author generally indulged in England, it would prove only a liberty for contention, censure and persecution.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have not therefore the same apprehension of liberty that some have, or can think the benefits of it to consist in a liberty for men, at pleasure, to adopt themselves children of God, and from thence assume a title to inheritances here, and proclaim themselves heirs

of the world, nor a liberty for ambitious men to pull down well-framed constitutions, that out of the ruins they may build themselves fortunes; not a liberty to be Christians so as not to be subjects. All the freedom I can wish my country or myself, is to enjoy the protection of those laws which the prudence and providence of our ancestors established, and the happy return of His Majesty has restored."

It may, perhaps, be thought, that the author in his desire to avoid the tyranny of the Saints, which he seems no less to have dreaded than that of the men of the sword, had overlooked those other and more lasting evils which have almost always attended the return of exiled monarchs.

The circumstances of the times, and the altered policy of the Government towards the Presbyterian party, prevented the publication of the tract to which the preface belonged, from which the above extracts are taken. The high Church party felt their strength in the new Parliament, and the attainment of religious peace by the means of comprehension and concession, was no longer the object of the dominant faction. The Church party now, in their turn, determined to exert their power with far greater rigour than had been shown towards them by the Presbyterians when in power, and now resolved, in the fulness of victory, to exclude all those who differed from them, whether in things essential, or in things indifferent, but at all events, to exclude, to punish, and to appropriate.

Whether Locke had, at any time, serious thoughts of engaging in any profession is uncertain; his inclinations led him strongly to the study of medicine, which seems very much to have occupied his thoughts to the end of his life, as appears from the frequent memoranda of curious cases that are to be found in his diary; and from the correspondence of his friends, who occasionally consulted him to a very late period, and from the number of medical books he collected. The praise which Sydenham, the greatest authority of his time, bestows on the medical skill of Locke, affords a brilliant proof of the high estimation which his acquirements in the science

of medicine, his penetrating judgment, as well as his many private virtues, procured from all who knew him. In the dedication prefixed to Dr. Sydenham's *Observations on the History and Cure of Acute Diseases*, 1676, he boasts of the approbation bestowed on his method by Mr. J. Locke, who (to borrow Sydenham's own words) had examined it to the bottom; and who, if we consider his genius and penetration, and exact judgment, has scarce any superior, and few equals now living. "*Nostri præterea quam huic meæ methodo suffragantem habeam, qui eam intimiùs per omnia perspexerat utrique nostrum conjunctissimum dominum Joannem Locke; quo quidem viro, sive ingenio judicioque acri et subacto, sive etiam antiquis, hoc est, optimis moribus, vix superiorem quenquam, inter eos qui nunc sunt homines repertum iri confido, paucissimos certè pares.*" Mr. Dugald Stewart, in his admirable dissertation on the progress of Philosophy since the revival of letters in Europe, observes: "The merit of this method, therefore, which still continues to be regarded as a model, by the most competent judges, may be presumed to have belonged in part to Mr. Locke,—a circumstance which deserves to be noticed, as an additional confirmation of what Bacon has so sagaciously taught, concerning the dependence of all the sciences, relating to the phenomena either of matter or of mind, on principles and rules derived from the resources of a higher philosophy: on the other hand, no science could have been chosen more happily calculated than medicine to prepare such a mind as that of Locke for the prosecution of those speculations which have immortalized his name; the complicated and fugitive, and often equivocal phenomena of disease, requiring in the observer a far greater portion of discriminating sagacity than those of physics, strictly so called; resembling in this respect, much more nearly, the phenomena about which metaphysics, ethics and politics, are conversant."

In 1665, Locke appears for the first time, to have engaged in the practical business of life, when he accompanied, as secretary, Sir Walter Vane, the King's envoy to the Elector of Brandenburg, during the first Dutch war. One of the following papers is a copy



of a letter partly defaced, dated Cleve, December, 1664; it will show his observations on the politics and character of the Court which he visited. The other is a long detailed letter written for the amusement of a friend in England, and will give a better idea of the social qualities of the writer, than any which have yet appeared; it will make us acquainted with him in his most familiar intercourse, and show his willingness to contribute to the amusement of those he lived with; and what is not unimportant, his freedom from prejudices in an age of prejudice.

The writer had desired his friend to "throw the letter by, in a corner of his study; it will serve us to laugh at:" it was thrown by in the study, and so came again into possession of its author, with some other letters written to the same friend, and in that way preserved.

## COPY OR DRAFT OF LETTER FROM LOCKE.

" TO MR. G.

Cleve, Decemb. 1665.

" I HAVE, by the post, from time to time, constantly given you my apprehension of things here; but since Sir Walter thinks he has reason to suspect that some of his dispatches have miscarried, and, therefore, has sent an express, I shall by him send you again an account of all I can learn here. I have hitherto been of the mind that their counsels here tend to the preserving a neutrality, and the reasons I had to think so were, that I saw no preparation for war, no levies made, but only talked of; and besides, I was informed that there is a great scarcity of money, that the expenses of the court are great, the debts greater, and the revenue small; and that the revenues of March and Cleve, which were wont to pay the use of old debts, are now employed in the expenses of the household during the Elector's abode here, and the creditors are to be content now without either use or principal. The business of 150,000 rix-dollars, which the Elector demands of the estates of March and Cleve, moves slowly; and though at our first coming hither it was told that it would be granted in two or three days, yet I cannot find that the Deputies are yet come to a resolution, or are like to grant it suddenly; but should the same be presently granted and paid, there are other ways to dispose of it beside armies, some of which I have mentioned to you in my former. The strong party the French and Dutch

have in the Court, (amongst which are two by whose advice the Elector is much swayed,) will make it difficult to draw him to the Bishop's\* side ; and the consideration of religion may, perhaps, a little increase the difficulty, since it is generally apprehended here that the war is upon that score ; and, perhaps, the fear of having some of his scattered countries molested by some of the Bishop's allies will make him a little cautious of declaring for the Dutch. The use you will find in the dispatch they make of late news from Ratisbon, I cannot think any other than a pretence, since I am told that the Resolution that is taken at the meeting there of assisting the Bishop is not so new that the Elector could be ignorant of it till now. I believe there is yet a neutrality, and that at least they are not forward, or hasty to appear for either side ; and perhaps, (since money seems to me to be here as well as in other places, the great solder of pact and agreements,) they delay the bargain to raise the price, and wait for the best chapman. They treat with Holland ; they treat with France ; and in what terms they stand with us, you will see by Sir Walter, but I must not mention ; but by the whole, I believe you will find they dally with them all. The Dutch have filled the Elector's towns upon the Rhein with their French soldiers, and they fill them with outrages, which he resents and complains of ; but it still continues the same, and by this procedure the Dutch seem either very confident of his friendship, or careless of his enmity. It is said the Bishop's army are now marching ; if it be upon any feasible design, he seems to have chosen a fit opportunity, whilst the States of Holland are questioning their Generals for some miscarriages in the last campaign, and things are out of order in Holland. The daughter of the old Princess of Orange is to be married to the Prince of Swerin ; the celebration, which is designed here, at Cleve, before Easter, and at the Elector's charge, and other expenses of the Court, will not leave much for the raising of soldiers. The men of business, who are his counsellors, and manage the Elector's affairs, are only three ; Baron Swerin, a man nobly born, a learned and experienced man, that well understands the state of the empire, and has most power with the Elector. Next to him is Mr. Jeana, a Doctor of Law, formerly professor at Heidelberg ; he hath been about six years of the Elector's council, and is, as I am told, a knowing and confident man : the other is Mr. Blaspell, a man of mean extraction, whose great ability lies in the knowledge of the affairs of Holland ; he is now there, and at his return, I hope to give you an account of his negotiation,



and will endeavour to get a more particular knowledge of his parts, humours, and inclinations. He got into favour and counsel of the Court by means of the Princess Dowager, Mother of the Electress, and I believe is much at her devotion. The Baron De Goes, envoy of the Emperor, returned hither last night from the Bishop of Munster; and some of his people, with whom I talk, told me that the Bishop's forces were about 16,000; that they all wanted money, and the foot, clothes; but none of them courage, or victuals; that they were all old and experienced soldiers, and they seemed all to prefer them much to the Dutch forces. They told me that many of the French ran over to the Bishop, being unwilling to fight against their own religion; that the Bishop used them kindly, gave them leave to depart, but entertained none of them in his service, being sure of soldiers enough whenever he has money. The Bishop is now at Cosfield, a strong place in his own dominions, where they saw some of the chief of the prisoners, taken at the last rencontre, entertained at the Bishop's table. His forces are now dispersed in several places, and there is like to be no engagement this winter. They all spoke very highly of the Bishop, and more affectionately than I think could be merely to comply with that concernment they might think I had in his affairs. Whether hence any thing may be guessed of the inclination of the Germans, of the Baron de Goes, or of the Emperor, I am not able to make any judgment upon so slight a conversation, but I shall endeavour to learn: only before his return, I found the Monks of the Convent where he lodges wholly inclined to the Bishop. How our affairs stand in the Court, and what progress is made, you will better understand by Sir Walter's dispatches, in which, whatever shall be found, I desire I may be considered only as transcriber."

TO MR. JOHN STRACHY, SUTTON COURT, BRISTOL.

"DEAR SIR,

Cleve, 1665.

"ARE you at leisure for half an hour's trouble? will you be content I should keep up the custom of writing long letters with little in them? 'Tis a barren place, and the dull frozen part of the year, and therefore you must not expect great matters. 'Tis enough, that at Christmas you have empty Christmas tales fit for the chimney corner. To begin, therefore, December 15th, (here 25th,) Christmas-day, about one in the morning, I went a gossiping to our Lady; think me not profane, for the name is a great deal modester than the service I was at. I shall not describe all the

particulars I observed in that church, being the principal of the Catholics in Cleves; but only those that were particular to the occasion. Near the high altar was a little altar for this day's solemnity; the scene was a stable, wherein was an ox, an ass, a cradle, the Virgin, the babe, Joseph, shepherds, and angels, *dramatis personæ*: had they but given them motion, it had been a perfect puppet play, and might have deserved pence a-piece; for they were of the same size and make that our English puppets are; and I am confident, these shepherds and this Joseph are kin to that Judith and Holophernes which I have seen at Bartholomew fair. A little without the stable was a flock of sheep, cut out of cards; and these, as they then stood without their shepherds, appeared to me the best emblem I had seen a long time, and methought represented these poor innocent people, who, whilst their shepherds pretend so much to follow Christ, and pay their devotion to him, are left unregarded in the barren wilderness. This was the show: the music to it was all vocal in the quire adjoining, but such as I never heard. They had strong voices, but so ill-tuned, so ill-managed, that it was their misfortune, as well as ours, that they could be heard. He that could not, though he had a cold, make better music with a chevy chace over a pot of smooth ale, deserved well to pay the reckoning, and go away athirst. However, I think they were the honestest singing men I have ever seen, for they endeavoured to deserve their money, and earned it certainly with pains enough; for what they wanted in skill, they made up in loudness and variety: every one had his own tune, and the result of all was like the noise of choosing Parliament men, where every one endeavours to cry loudest. Besides the men, there were a company of little choristers, I thought when I saw them at first, they had danced to the other's music, and that it had been your Gray's Inn revels; for they were jumping up and down, about a good charcoal fire that was in the middle of the quire (this their devotion and their singing was enough, I think, to keep them warm, though it were a very cold night); but it was not dancing, but singing they served for; when it came to their turns, away they ran to their places, and there they made as good harmony as a concert of little pigs would, and they were much about as cleanly. Their part being done, out they sallied again to the fire, where they played till their cue called them, and then back to their places they huddled. So negligent and slight are they in their service in a place where the nearness of adversaries might teach them to be more careful; but I suppose the natural tendency of these outside performances, and these



mummers in religion, would bring it every where to this pass, did not fear and the severity of the magistrate preserve it; which being taken away here, they very easily suffer themselves to slobber over their ceremonies, which in other places are kept up with so much zeal and exactness; but methinks they are not to be blamed, since the one seems to me as much religion as the other. In the afternoon, I went to the Carthusians' church; they had their little gentry too, but in finer clothes; and their angels with surplices on, and singing books in their hands; for here is nothing to be done without books. Hither were crowded a great throng of children to see these pretty babies, and I amongst them, as wise and as devout as they, and for my pains had a good sprinkle of holy water, and now I may defy the devil: thus have I begun the holidays with Christmas gambols. But had I understood the language, I believe, at the Reformed church, I had found something more serious; for they have two sermons at their church, for Christmas lasts no longer here. That which pleased me most was, that at the same Catholic church the next day, I saw our Lady all in white linen, dressed as one that is newly lain in, and on her lap something that, perhaps twenty years since, was designed for a baby, but now it was grown to have a beard; and methought was not so well used as our country fellows used to be, who, though they escape all the year, are usually trimmed at Christmas. They must pardon me for being merry, for it is Christmas: but, to be serious with you, the Catholic religion is a different thing from what we believe it in England. I have other thoughts of it than when I was in a place that is filled with prejudices, and things are known only by hearsay. I have not met with any so good-natured people, or so civil, as the Catholic priests, and I have received many courtesies from them, which I shall always gratefully acknowledge. But to leave the good-natured Catholics, and to give you a little account of our brethren the Calvinists, that differ very little from our English Presbyterians. I met lately, accidentally, with a young sucking divine, that thought himself no small champion; who, as if he had been some knight-errant, bound by oath to bid battle to all comers, first accosted me in courteous voice; but the customary salute being over, I found myself assaulted most furiously, and heavy loads of arguments fell upon me. I, that expected no such thing, was fain to guard myself under the trusty broad shield of ignorance, and only now and then returned a blow by way of enquiry: and by this Parthian way of flying, defended myself till passion and want of breath had

made him weary, and so we came to an accommodation ; though, had he had lungs enough, and I no other use of my ears, the combat might have lasted (if that may be called a combat, *ubi tu cades ego vapulo tantum*) as long as the wars of Troy, and the end of all had been like that, nothing but some rubbish of divinity as useless and incoherent as the ruins the Greeks left behind them. This was a probationer in theology, and, I believe, (to keep still to my errantry) they are bound to show their prowess with some valiant unknown, before they can be dubbed, and receive the dignity of the order. I cannot imagine why else he should set upon me, a poor innocent wight, who thought nothing of a combat, and desired to be peaceable, and was too far from my own dunghill to be quarrelling ; but, it is no matter, there were no wounds made but in Priscian's head, who suffers much in this country. This provocation I have sufficiently revenged upon one of their church, our landlord, who is wont sometimes to germanize and to be a little too much of the creature. These frailties I threaten him to discover to his pastor, who will be sure to rebuke him (but sparing his name) the next Sunday from the pulpit, and severely chastise the liberty of his cups ; thus I sew up the good man's mouth, because the other gaped too much, and made him as much bear my tongue as I was punished with the other's. But for all this, he will sometimes drink himself into a defiance of divines and discipline, and hearken only to Bacchus's inspirations. You must not expect any thing remarkable from me all the following week, for I have spent it in getting a pair of gloves, and think too, I have had a quick despatch ; you will perhaps wonder at it, and think I talk like a traveller ; but I will give you the particulars of the business. Three days were spent in finding out a glover, for though I can walk all the town over in less than an hour, yet their shops are so contrived, as if they were designed to conceal, not expose their wares ; and though you may think it strange, yet, methinks, it is very well done, and 'tis a becoming modesty to conceal that which they have reason enough to be ashamed of. But to proceed ; the two next days were spent in drawing them on, the right hand glove, (or as they call them here, hand shoe) Thursday, and the left hand, Friday, and I'll promise you this was two good days' work, and little enough to bring them to fit my hands and to consent to be fellows, which, after all, they are so far from, that when they are on, I am always afraid my hands should go to cuffs, one with another, they so disagree : Saturday we concluded on the price, computed, and changed our money, for it requires a great deal of arithmetic



and a great deal of brass to pay twenty-eight stivers, and seven doits ; but, God be thanked, they are all well fitted with counters for reckoning ; for their money is good for nothing else, and I am poor here with my pockets full of it. I wondered at first why the market people brought their wares in little carts, drawn by one horse, till I found it necessary to carry home the price of them ; for a horse-load of turnips, would be two horse-load of money. A pair of shoes cannot be got under half a year : I lately saw the cow killed, out of whose hide I hope to have my next pair. The first thing after they are married here is to bespeak the child's coat, and truly the bridegroom must be a bungler that gets not the child before the mantle be made ; for it is far easier here to have a man made than a suit. To be serious with you, they are the slowest people, and fullest of delays that ever I have met with, and their money as bad. December 22nd I saw the inscription that entitles the Elector's house here to so much antiquity ; it stands at the upper end of a large room, which is the first entrance into the house, and is as follows :—" Anno ab urbe Romanâ conditâ 698 Julius Cæsar Dictator hisce partibus in ditionem susceptis arcem hanc Clivensem fund." I know not how old the wall was that bore it, but the inscription was certainly much younger than I am, as appears by the characters and other circumstances ; however, I believe the painter revered the antiquity, and did homage to the memory of Cæsar, and was not averse to a tradition which the situation and antique mode of building made not improbable. The same time, I had the favour to see the kitchen and the cellar, and though in the middle of the first there was made on the floor a great fire big enough to broil half a dozen St. Laurences, yet methought the cellar was the better place, and so I made haste to leave it, and have little to say of it, unless you think fit I should tell you how many rummers of Rhenish I drank, and how many biscuits I ate, and that I had there almost learned to speak High Dutch. December 24,—At the Lutherans' church, after a good lusty, rattling High Dutch sermon, the sound whereof would have made one think it had the design of reproof, I had an opportunity to observe the administration of the Sacrament, which was thus :—the sermon being ended, the minister that preached not (for they have two to a church) stood up at a little desk which was upon the communion table, almost at the upper end of the church, and then read a little while, part of which reading I judged to be prayer, but observed no action that looked like consecration, (I know not what the words were) ; when he had done, he placed himself

at the north end of the table, and the other minister that preached, at the south end, so that their backs were toward one another; then there marched up to him on the north side a communicant, who, when he came to the minister, made a low bow, and knelt down, and then the minister put water into his mouth; which done, he rose, made his obeisance, and went to the other end, where he did the same, and had the wine poured into his mouth, without taking the cup in his hand, and then came back to his place by the south side of the church. Thus did four, one after another, which were all that received that day, and amongst them was a boy, about thirteen or fourteen years old. They have at this church a sacrament every Sunday morning: in the afternoon, at the Calvinists', I saw a christening. After sermon there came three men and three women (one whereof was the midwife, with a child in her arms, the rest were godfathers and godmothers, of which they allow a greater number than we do, and so wisely get more spoons)—to the table which is just by the pulpit. They taking their places, the minister in the pulpit read a little of the Institution, then read a short prayer; then another minister, that was below, took the child, and with his hand poured water three times on its forehead, which done, he in the pulpit read another short prayer, and so concluded. All this was not much longer than the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Ten Commandments; for all their service is very short, beside their preaching and singing, and there they allow good measure."

## TO THE SAME.

"DEAR SIR,

"The old opinion, that every man had his particular genius that ruled and directed his course of life, hath made me sometimes laugh to think what a pleasant thing it would be if we could see little sprights bestride men, (as plainly as I see here women bestride horses,) ride them about, and spur them on in that way which they ignorantly think they choose themselves. And would you not smile to observe that they make use of us as we do of our palfreys, to trot up and down for their pleasure and not our own? To what purpose this from Cleves? I will tell you: if there be any such thing, (as I cannot vouch the contrary,) certainly mine is an academic goblin. When I left Oxford, I thought for awhile to take leave of all University affairs, and should have least expected to have found any thing of that nature here at Cleves of any part of the world. But do what I can, I am still kept in that tract. I no sooner was got here, but I was



welcomed with a divinity disputation, which I gave you an account of in my last ; I was no sooner rid of that, but I found myself up to the ears in poetry, and overwhelmed in Helicon. I had almost or rather have been soused in the Reyne, as frozen as it was, for it could not have been more cold and intolerable than the poetry I met with. The remembrance of it puts me in a chill sweat, and were it not that I am obliged to recount all particulars, being under the laws of an historian, I should find it very difficult to recall to mind this part of my story : but having armed myself with a good piece of bag pudding, which bears a mighty antipathy to poetry, and having added thereto half a dozen glasses of daring wine, I thus proceed :—My invisible master, therefore, having mounted me, rode me out to a place, where I must needs meet a learned bard in a threadbare coat, and a hat, that though in its younger days it had been black, yet it was grown grey with the labour of its master's brains, and his hard study or time had changed the colour of that as well as his master's hair. His breeches had the marks of antiquity upon them, were borne, I believe, in the heroic times, and retained still the gallantry of that age, and had an antipathy to base pelf. Stockings I know not whether he had any, but I am sure his two shoes had but one heel, which made his own foot go as uneven as those of his verses. He was so poor, that he had not so much as a rich face, nor the promise of a carbuncle in it, so that I must needs say that his outside was poet enough. After a little discourse, wherein he sprinkled some bays on our British Druid Owen, out he drew from under his coat a folio of verses ; and that you may be sure they were excellent, I must tell you that they were acrostics upon the name and titles of the Elector of Brandenburg. I could not escape reading of them : when I had done, I endeavoured to play the poet a little in commending them, but in that he outdid me clearly, praised faster than I could, preferred them to Lucan and Virgil, showed me where his muse flew high, squeezed out all the verjuice of all his conceits, and there was not a secret conundrum which he laid not open to me ; and in that little talk I had with him afterwards, he quoted his own verses a dozen times, and gloried in his works. The Poem was designed as a present to the Elector, but I being Owen's countryman had the honour to see them before the Elector, which he made me understand was a singular courtesy, though I believe one hundred others had been equally favoured. I told him the Elector must needs give him a considerable reward ; he seemed angry at the mention of it, and told me he had only a design to show his affection and parts, and spoke as if he



thought himself fitter to give than to receive any thing from the Elector, and that he was the greater person of the two ; and indeed, what need had he of any gift, who had all Tagus and Pactolus in his possession? could make himself a Tempe when he pleased, and create as many Elysiums as he had a mind to. I applauded his generosity and great mind, thanked him for the favour he had done me, and at last got out of his hands. But my University goblin left me not so ; for the next day, when I thought I had been rode out only to airing, I was had to a foddering of chopped bay or logic forsooth ! Poor *materia prima* was canvassed cruelly, stripped of all the gay dress of her forms, and shown naked to us, though, I must confess, I had not eyes good enough to see her ; however, the dispute was good sport, and would have made a horse laugh, and truly I was like to have broke my bridle. The young monks (which one would not guess by their looks) are subtile people, and dispute as eagerly for *materia prima*, as if they were to make their dinner on it, and, perhaps, sometimes it is all their meal, for which other's charity is more to be blamed than their stomachs. The Professor of philosophy and moderator of the disputation was more acute at it than Father Hudibras ; he was top full of distinctions, which he produced with so much gravity, and applied with so good a grace, that ignorant I, began to admire logic again, and could not have thought that “*simpliciter et secundum quid materialiter et formaliter*” had been such gallant things, which, with the right stroking of his whiskers, the settling of his hood, and his stately walk, made him seem to himself and me something more than Aristotle and Democritus. But he was so hotly charged by one of the seniors of the fraternity that I was afraid sometimes what it would produce, and feared there would be no other way to decide the controversy between them but by cuffs ; but a subtile distinction divided the matter between them, and so they parted good friends. The truth is, here hog-shearing is much in its glory, and our disputing in Oxford comes as far short of it as the rhetoric of Carfax does that of Bilingsgate. But it behoves the monks to cherish this art of wrangling in its declining age, which they first nursed, and sent abroad into the world, to give it a troublesome, idle employment. I being a brute, that was rode there for another's pleasure, profited little by all their reasonings, and was glad when they had done, that I might get home again to my ordinary provender, and leave them their sublime speculations, which certainly their spare diet and private cells inspire abundantly, which such gross feeders as I am are not capable of.”

“ DEAR SIR, .

Dec. 1664.

“ This day our public entertainment upon the Elector’s account ended, much to my satisfaction ; for I had no great pleasure in a feast where, amidst a great deal of meat and company, I had little to eat, and less to say. The advantage was, the lusty Germans fed so heartily themselves, that they regarded not much my idleness ; and I might have enjoyed a perfect quiet, and slept out the meal, had not a glass of wine now and then jogged me ; and indeed, therein lay the care of their entertainment, and the sincerity too, for the wine was such as might be known, and was not ashamed of itself. But for their meats, they were all so disguised, that I should have guessed they had rather designed a mass than a meal, and had a mind rather to pose than feed us. But the cook made their matamorphosis like Ovid’s, where the change is usually into the worse. I had, however, courage to venture upon things unknown ; and I could not often tell whether I ate flesh or fish, or good red herring, so much did they dissemble themselves ; only now and then, a dish of good honest fresh water fish came in, so far from all manner of deceit or cheat, as they hid not so much as their tails in a drop of butter ; nor was there any sauce near to disguise them. What think you of a hen and cabbage ? or a piece of powdered beef covered over with preserved quinces ? These are no miracles here. One thing there is that I like very well, which is, that they have good salads all the year, and use them frequently. It is true, the Elector gave his victuals, but the officers that attended us valued their services, and one of them had ready in his pocket a list of those that expected rewards at such a rate, that the attendance cost more than the meat was worth.

“ DEC. 9.—I was invited and dined at a monastery with the Franciscan friars, who had before brought a Latin epistle to us for relief ; for they live upon others’ charity, or more truly, live idly upon others’ labours. But to my dinner, for my mouth waters to be at it, and no doubt you will long for such another entertainment when you know this. After something instead of grace or music, choose you whether, for I could make neither of it ; for though what was sung were Latin, yet the tune was such, that I neither understood the Latin nor the harmony. The beginning of the Lord’s Prayer to the first petition, they repeated aloud, but went on silently to “ *sed libera nos,*” &c. and then broke out into a loud chorus, which continued to the end ; during their silence, they stooped forwards, and held their heads as if they had been listening to one an-



other's whispers. After this prelude, down we sat: the chief of the monks (I suppose the prior) in the inside of the table, just in the middle, and all his brethren on each side of him; I was placed just opposite to him, as if I had designed to bid battle to them all. But we were all very quiet, and after some silence, in marched a solemn procession of peas porridge, every one his dish. I could not tell by the looks what it was, till putting my spoon in for discovery, some few peas in the bottom peeped up. I had pity on them, and was willing enough to spare them, but was forced by good manners, though against my nature and appetite, to destroy some of them, and so on I fell. All this while not a word; I could not tell whether to impute the silence to the eagerness of their stomachs, which allowed their mouths no other employment but to fill them, or any other reason: I was confident it was not in admiration of their late music. At last, the oracle of the place spoke, and told them he gave them leave to speak to entertain me. I returned my compliment, and then to discourse we went, helter-skelter, as hard as our bad Latin, and worse pronunciation on each side, would let us; but no matter, we cared not for Priscian, whose head suffered that day not a little. However, this saved me from the peas-pottage, and the peas-pottage from me; for now I had something else to do. Our next course was, every one his act of fish, and butter to boot; but whether it were intended for fresh or salt fish I cannot tell, and I believe it is a question as hard as any Thomas ever disputed: our third service was cheese and butter, and the cheese had this peculiar in it, which I never saw any where else, that it had carraway seeds in it. The prior had upon the table by him a little bell, which he rang when he wanted any thing, and those that waited never brought him any thing or took away, but they bowed with much reverence, and kissed the table. The prior was a good plump fellow, that had more belly than brains; and methought was very fit to be revered, and not much unlike some head of a college. I liked him well for an entertainment; for if we had had a good dinner, he would not have disturbed me much with his discourse. The first that kissed the table did it so leisurely, that I thought he had held his head there that the prior, during our silence, might have wrote something on his bald crown, and made it sink that way into his understanding. Their beer was pretty good, but their countenances bespoke better: their bread brown, and their table-linen neat enough. After dinner, we had the second part of the same tune, and after that I departed.

The truth is, they were very civil and courteous, and seemed good-natured : it was their time of fast in order to Christmas : if I have another feast there, you shall be my guest. You will perhaps have reason to think that whatever becomes of the rest, I shall bring home my belly well-improved, since all I tell you is of eating and drinking ; but you must know that knight-errants do not choose their adventures, and those who sometimes live pleasantly in brave castles, amidst feasting and ladies, are at other times in battles and wildernesses, and you must take them as they come.

“ DEC. 10.—I went to the Lutheran church, and found them all merrily singing with their hats on ; so that by the posture they were in, and the fashion of the building, not altogether unlike a theatre, I was ready to fear that I had mistook the place. I thought they had met only to exercise their voices ; for after a long stay they still continued on their melody, and I verily believe they sung the 119th Psalm, nothing else could be so long : that that made it a little tolerable was, that they sung better than we do in our churches, and are assisted by an organ. The music being done, up went the preacher, and prayed ; and then they sung again ; and then, after a little prayer at which they all stood up, (and, as I understand since, was the Lord’s Prayer) read some of the Bible ; and then, laying by his book, preached to them *memoriter*. His sermon, I think, was in blank verse ; for by the modulation of his voice, which was not very pleasant, his periods seemed to be all nearly the same length ; but if his matter were no better than his delivery, those that slept had no great loss, and might have snored as harmoniously. After sermon a prayer, and the organ and voice again ; and to conclude all, up stood another minister at a little desk, above the communion table, (for in the Lutheran and Calvinist churches here there are no chancels), gave the benediction, which I was told was the “ *Ite in Nomine Domini* ;” crossed himself, and so dismissed them. In the church I observed two pictures, one a crucifix, the other I could not well discern ; but in the Calvinist church no picture at all. Here are, besides Catholics, Calvinists, and Lutherans (which three are allowed) Jews, Anabaptists, and Quakers. The Quakers, who are about thirty families, and some of them not of the meanest ; and they increase, for as much as I can learn, they agree with ours in other things as well as name, and take no notice of the Elector’s prohibiting their meeting.

“ DEC. 11.—I had formerly seen the size and arms of the Duke’s guards,

but to-day I had a sample of their stomachs, (I mean to eat, not to fight;) for if they be able to do as much that way too, no question but under their guard the Duke is as much in safety as I believe his victuals are in danger. But to make you the better understand my story, and the decorum which made me take notice of it, I must first describe the place to you. The place where the Elector commonly eats is a large room, into which you enter at the lower end by an ascent of some few steps; just without this is a lobby: as this evening I was passing through it into the court, I saw a company of soldiers very close together, and a steam rising from the midst of them. I, as strangers used to be, being a little curious, drew near to these men of mettle, where I found three or four earthen fortifications, wherein were intrenched peas-porridge, and stewed turnips or apples, most valiantly stormed by those men of war: they stood just opposite to the Duke's table, and within view of it; and had the Duke been there at supper, as it was very near his supper time, I should have thought they had been set there to provoke his appetite by example, and serve as the cocks have done in some countries before battle, to fight the soldiers into courage, and certainly these soldiers might eat others into stomachs. Here you might have seen the court and camp drawn near together, there a supper preparing with great ceremony, and just by it a hearty meal made without stool, trencher, table-cloth, or napkins, and for ought I could see, without beer, bread, or salt; but I stayed not long, for methought 'twas a dangerous place, and so I left them in the engagement. I doubt by that time you come to the end of this course of entertainment, you will be as weary of reading as I am of writing, and therefore I shall refer you for the rest of my adventures (wherein you are not to expect any great matter) to the next chapter of my history. The news here is, that the Dutch have taken Lochem from the Bishop of Munster, and he, in thanks, has taken and killed five or six hundred of their men. The French, they say, run away, some home, and some to the Bishop, who has disposed his men into garrisons, which has given the Dutch an opportunity to besiege another of his towns, but not very considerable: all things here seem to threaten a great deal of stir next summer, but as yet the Elector declares for neither side. I sent my uncle a letter of attorney before I left England, to authorise him to dispose of my affairs there, and order my estate as he should think most convenient: I hope he received it. I think it best my tenants should not know that I am out of England, for perhaps that may make them the more slack to pay their



rents. If he tells you any thing that concerns me, pray send word to your faithful friend,

J. L."

"Throw by this in some corner of your study till I come, and then we will laugh together, for it may serve to recall other things to my memory, for 'tis like I may have no other journal."

Locke returned to England in February 1665, and was at that time undecided whether or not to continue in the public employment, and accept an offer to go to Spain. In a letter to the same friend, Mr. Strachy, after mentioning the latest news:—

"That the French fill their towns towards England and Holland with soldiers; but whatever we apprehend, I scarce believe with a design of landing in England;" he says, "what private observations I have made will be fitter for our table at Sutton than a letter, and if I have the opportunity to see you shortly, we may possibly laugh together at some German stories, but of my coming into the country I write doubtfully to you, for I am now offered a fair opportunity of going into Spain with the Ambassador; if I embrace it, I shall conclude this my wandering year; if not, you will ere long see me in Somersetshire. If I go I shall not have above ten days' stay in England: I am pulled both ways by divers considerations, and do yet waver. I intend to-morrow for Oxford, and shall there take my resolution. This town affords little news, and though the return of the Court gives confidence to the timorous that kept from it for fear of the infection, yet I find the streets very thin, and methinks the town droops.

Yours most faithfully,

"London, Feb. 22, 65."

JOHN LOCKE."

The resolution was taken soon after his arrival at Oxford not to accept the offer of going to Spain.

"DEAR SIR,

"I wrote to you from London as soon as I came thither, to let you know you had a servant returned to England, but very likely to leave it again before he saw you. But those fair offers I had to go to Spain have not prevailed with me: whether fate or fondness kept me at home I know not; whether I have let slip the minute that they say every one has once

in his life to make himself, I cannot tell: this I am sure, I never trouble myself for the loss of that which I never had; and have the satisfaction that I hope shortly to see you at Sutton Court, a greater rarity than my travels have afforded me; for, believe it, one may go a long way before one meet a friend. Pray write by the post, and let me know how you do, and what you can tell of the concernment of,

Your most affectionate friend,

“ Oxford, Feb. 28, 65.”

J. LOCKE.”

The following letter from Locke to his friend, Mr. Strachy, describing the disaster at Chatham, when the Dutch fleet sailed into the Medway, may not be uninteresting; it was in all probability written during his residence with Lord Shaftesbury in London.

“ SIR,

June 15, 67.

“ I believe report hath increased the ill news we have here, therefore, to abate what possibly fear may have rumoured, I send you what is vouched here for nearest the truth. The Dutch have burned seven of our ships in Chatham, viz. the Royal James, Royal Oak, London, Unity, St. Matthias, Charles V., and the Royal Charles, which some say they have towed off, others that they have burned. One man of war of theirs was blown up, and three others they say are stuck in the sands; the rest of their fleet is fallen down out of the Medway into the Thames. It was neither excess of courage on their part, nor want of courage in us, that brought this loss upon us; for when the English had powder and shot they fought like themselves, and made the Dutch feel them; but whether it were fortune, or fate, or any thing else, let time and tongues tell you, for I profess I would not believe what every mouth speaks. It is said this morning the French fleet are seen off the Isle of Wight. I have neither the gift nor heart to prophesy, and since I remember you bought a new cloak in the hot weather, I know you are apt enough to provide against a storm. Should I tell you that I believe but half what men of credit and eye witnesses report, you would think the world very wicked and foolish, or me very credulous. Things and persons are the same here, and go on at the same rate they did before, and I, among the rest, design to continue,

Your faithful friend and servant,

J. L.”

“ I think the hull of three or four of our great ships are saved, being

sunk to prevent their burning totally. We are all quiet here, but raising of forces apace."

This and other letters to Mr. Strachy, were probably returned again to Locke, after the death of the friend to whom they had been written.

He had again an offer of an employment abroad in the following August, and continued, as late as May 1666, to receive letters from an agent in Germany, who appears to have been employed to send intelligence for the information of some member of the Government here. There exist several letters, dated Cleve, from this person to Locke, then at Oxford; but as they relate to events no longer of any importance, it is unnecessary to give their contents, however amusing the German description of the Coyness and Coquetry of a German Elector and his Minister, on those truly national and interesting questions, soldier-selling and subsidies.

In 1666 an offer of a different nature was made through a friend in Dublin, to procure a considerable preferment in the Church from the Duke of Ormond, then Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, if Locke should be inclined to engage in the clerical profession, and a draft of his answer has been preserved, which will show his conscientious scruples, and the objections which determined him to refuse the advantageous offer then held out to him.

After expressing how much he felt indebted to the kindness of his friend, he proceeds thus:—

"The proposals, no question, are very considerable; but consider, a man's affairs and whole course of his life are not to be changed in a moment, and that one is not made fit for a calling, and that in a day. I believe you think me too proud to undertake any thing wherein I should acquit myself but unworthily. I am sure I cannot content myself with being undermost, possibly the middlemost of my profession; and you will allow, on consideration, care is to be taken not to engage in a calling, wherein, if one chance to be a bungler, there is no retreat. A person must needs be very quick or inconsiderate, that can on a sudden resolve to transplant himself from a country, affairs, and study, upon probability, which, though your interest there may make you look on as certain, yet my want of fitness may probably disap-



point : for certainly something is required on my side. It is not enough for such places to be in orders, and I cannot think that preferment of that nature should be thrown upon a man who has never given any proof of himself, nor ever tried the pulpit. Would you not think it a stranger question, if I were to ask you whether I must be first in these places or in orders ; and yet, if you will consider with me, it will not perhaps seem altogether irrational : for should I put myself into orders, and, by the meanness of my abilities, grow unworthy such expectations, (for you do not think that divines are now made, as formerly, by inspiration and on a sudden, nor learning caused by laying on of hands,) I unavoidably lose all my former study, and put myself into a calling that will not leave me. Were it a profession from whence there were any return—and that, amongst all the occurrences of life may be very convenient—you would find me with as great forwardness to embrace your proposals, as I now acknowledge them with gratitude. The same considerations have made me a long time reject very advantageous offers of several very considerable friends in England. I cannot now be forward to disgrace you, or any one else, by being lifted into a place which perhaps I cannot fill, and from whence there is no descending without tumbling. If any shame or misfortune attend me, it shall be only mine ; and if I am covetous of any good fortune, 'tis that one I love may share it with me. But your great obligation is not the less, because I am not in a condition to receive the effect of it. I return all manner of acknowledgement due to so great a favour, and shall watch all occasions to let you see how sensible I am of it, and to assure you I am, &c. &c."

Had he accepted this offer of preferment ; had he risen beyond that middlemost station in the Church, which his own modesty made him assign to himself, and to which his virtues must have condemned him ; had he even risen to the highest station in that profession, he might have acquired all the reputation which belongs to a divine of great talents and learning, or the still higher distinction of great moderation, candour, and christian charity, so rare in a high churchman ; but most certainly he would never have attained the name of a great philosopher, who has extended the bounds of human knowledge.

There occurred in the course of Locke's life the choice of three distinct roads to fortune, and perhaps to celebrity, either of which

was capable of influencing most powerfully, if not of totally changing his future destiny. The temptation of considerable preferment in the Church, already mentioned, the practice of physic as a profession, or the opportunity of engaging in diplomatic employments, from which last he seems, by his own account, to have had a narrow escape. It would have been unfortunate for his own renown, had he been swayed by the advantages which at different times were held out to him ; it would also have been unfortunate for the progress of knowledge in the world, if he had placed himself under the influence of circumstances so capable of diverting the current of his thoughts, and changing his labours from their proper and most useful destination ; namely, the lifting of the veil of error : because an age might have elapsed before the appearance of so bold a searcher after truth.

It appears, from Boyle's General History of the Air, that in 1666, Locke was engaged in experimental philosophy ; as he began a register of the state of the air in the month of June of that year, and continued it, with many interruptions, however, and some of very long continuance, till his final departure from Oxford in 1683. In a letter from Mr. Boyle, somewhat earlier than the first printed observations, after praising the industry and curiosity of his correspondent, he expresses a wish that he should "search into the nature of minerals," and promises to send some sheets of articles of enquiry into mines, and it seems that Locke was at that time much engaged in chymical as well as physical studies.

In the same year, 1666, he first became acquainted with Lord Ashley, afterwards the celebrated Earl of Shaftesbury ; and as accidents are frequently said to have the greatest influence in determining the course of men's lives, so, in this instance, the merest accident produced an acquaintance which was afterwards ripened into the closest intimacy, and was the cause of turning his attention to political subjects, and thus materially affected the course of his future life.

Lord Ashley, we are informed, was suffering from an abscess



in his breast, the consequence of a fall from his horse ; and came to Oxford in order to drink the water of Astrop. He had written to Dr. Thomas to procure the waters for him on his arrival at Oxford, but this physician happening to be called away from that place, desired Locke to execute the commission. By some accident, the waters were not ready when Lord Ashley arrived ; and Locke waited upon him to apologize for the disappointment occasioned by the fault of the messenger sent to procure them. Lord Ashley received him with great civility, and was not only satisfied with his excuse, but was so much pleased with his conversation, that he desired to improve an acquaintance thus begun by accident, and which afterwards grew into a friendship that continued unchanged to the end of his life.

Lord Ashley, better known as Lord Shaftesbury, was a man of the greatest penetration and genius, to which he united the most engaging manners and address. We may therefore readily believe what Le Clerc tells us, that Locke, on his part, was no less anxious to cultivate the acquaintance of so distinguished a person. If the first services which Locke was enabled to render Lord Ashley were derived from his medical science, his sagacity and talent for business of every kind soon led to the most unreserved confidence ; and he continued, during the whole course of his life, through good report and evil report, steadily attached to his patron and his friend ; nor will it be denied, that this steadiness of attachment was alike honourable to both. Mr. Fox says, that Locke “ was probably caught by the splendid qualities of Shaftesbury ; his courage, his openness, his party zeal, his eloquence, his fair-dealing with his friends, and his superiority to vulgar corruption ; and that his partiality might make him, on the other hand, blind to the indifference with which he (Shaftesbury) espoused either monarchical, arbitrary, or republican principles, as best suited his ambition. The greatest blots in Shaftesbury’s character are his sitting on the Trials of the Regicides, and his persecution of the Papists in the affair of the Popish Plot, merely, as it should seem,

because it suited the parties with which he was engaged." In neither of these transactions could Locke have had the least part, as he had resided for more than three years on the Continent, chiefly in France, for the benefit of his health, and remained there during the heat and fury excited by the discovery of the Popish Plot. He had left England, December, 1675, and returned not again before the 10th of May, 1679. It will be remembered, that Bedloe's Narrative, and the trials, if they can so be called, of the Catholics charged with the plot, had taken place in 1678, and were finished in the early part of the following year. There cannot, therefore, be the slightest reason to suspect that Locke could have assisted in the remotest manner to excite the blind No Popery rage of those disgraceful times. Even had he been within the atmosphere of the raging epidemic, the love of truth, which at all times so nobly distinguished him, would have preserved him from the national contagion. Although it is impossible to give the same verdict of not guilty in favour of Shaftesbury, yet, when we consider the temper of the age, and the delusions under which men laboured, some allowance must be made for that great party-leader who, with all his faults, undoubtedly possessed many great qualities; and before passing our final sentence upon him, one thing must never be forgotten, that to Shaftesbury we owe the Habeas Corpus Act; a political merit of such magnitude, that, like the virtue of charity, it may justly be said to cover a multitude of sins.

To return, however, to the early period of the connexion with Lord Ashley, we learn that, from Oxford, Locke accompanied him to Sunning-hill Wells, and afterwards resided for some time, towards the end of the year, at Exeter-House, in the Strand. Lord Ashley, also, by his advice, underwent an operation which saved his life, the opening of an abscess on his breast. During this residence with Lord Ashley in London, he had the opportunity of seeing many of the most distinguished characters of those times, the Duke of Buckingham, Lord Halifax, &c. who, we are told, enjoyed the style of his conversation, which was a happy union of wit and good sense.

Le Clerc tells a story, that once, when three or four of these noblemen had met at Lord Ashley's, and, without much prelude, sat down to the card-table, Locke, taking out his pocket-book, and looking at the company, began to write, with the appearance of great attention. One of the party observing him occupied in this manner, enquired what he was writing; to which Locke replied, that he was extremely desirous of profiting by their Lordships' conversation, and having waited impatiently for the opportunity of enjoying the society of some of the greatest wits of the age, he thought he could do no better than to take down verbatim what they said, and he began to read the notes that he had made. Of course, it was not necessary to proceed far; the jest produced the effect, the card-table was deserted, and the remainder of the evening was passed in a more rational and agreeable manner.

We learn from Le Clerc, that Locke was consulted by Lord Ashley in all his affairs, even in the most interesting concerns of his family. He resided partly at Exeter-House, and partly at Oxford; at which last place we know that, in 1670, his great work, the *Essay on Human Understanding*, was first sketched out. It arose from the meeting, as the author says, of five or six friends at his chambers, who finding difficulties in the inquiry and discussion they were engaged in, he was induced to examine what objects our understandings were, or were not, fitted to deal with. The hasty thoughts which he set down against the next meeting, gave the first entrance to that discourse which, after long intervals, and many interruptions, was at last, during a period of leisure and retirement, brought into the order it assumed, when given to the world eighteen years afterwards. It has been said before, that a copy of the *Essay* exists with the date of 1671, and it may here be added, that the names of two of the friends alluded to were Tyrrell and Thomas, a part of whose correspondence, as connected with the publication of the *Essay*, will appear when we come to that time.

In 1672, Lord Ashley, after filling the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, was created Earl of Shaftesbury, and declared Lord



Chancellor. He then appointed Locke his Secretary for the presentation of benefices, and also to some office in the Council of Trade; both of which he quitted in 1673, when Shaftesbury quarrelled with the Court, and placed himself at the head of the Country party in Parliament.

It was at the opening of the Parliament in 1673, that Shaftesbury made use of that extraordinary expression, in reference to the war with Holland, "*delenda est Carthago*;" not, it must be observed, in his speech as a peer, expressing his own individual opinion, but in what may be called a supplemental speech made by the Lord Chancellor (according to the practice of the time) to that delivered by the King in person, and previously determined upon by the King in Council. Shaftesbury expressed to Locke the vexation he felt at being made the organ of such sentiments; and practiced as he was as a speaker and politician, and possessing as he did the greatest presence of mind on all occasions, yet on this, he desired Locke to stand near him with a copy of the speech in his hand, that he might be ready to assist his memory, in case he should require it, in the painful task of delivering an official speech containing opinions so contrary to his own.

During this administration, that unprincipled measure, the shutting of the Exchequer, had been perpetrated. Clifford is now known to have been the author and adviser, but as it has often been attributed to Shaftesbury, it is due to him to give his own refutation of that charge in a letter which he wrote to Locke.

A second letter from Shaftesbury, unconnected with the question, and of a later date, has been added as a specimen of his light and playful style of correspondence.

"THESE FOR HIS MUCH-ESTEEMED FRIEND, JOHN LOCKE, ESQ.

"MR. LOCKE,

St. Giles, Nov. 23, 1674.

"I write only to you, and not to Mr. Stringer, because you write me word he is ill, for which I am exceedingly sorry, and pray heartily for his recovery, as being very much concerned, both in friendship and interest.

“ As for Captain Halstead’s affair, I have this day received the inclosed letter from him, which, when you have read, you will believe I have reason to desire to be freed from his clamour ; therefore, pray speak with him again, and tell him, that Mr. Stringer being sick, I have desired you to appear for me before the referees ; and that whatever they shall award, I have given orders to pay my proportion ; and that, according to his desire, I have written as effectually as I can to the other Lords, that they would do the same. Pray keep his letter, and let me have it again. I have herewith sent an answer to the Lord Craven, and the rest of the Lords’ letters, which I have not sealed that you may read it ; when you have read it, you may seal it, if you please.

“ Pray speak to South, at the Custom-House, that he would buy me one bushel of the best sort of chestnuts ; it is for planting, and send them down by the carrier.

“ You guess very right at the design of the pamphlet you sent me ; it is certainly designed to throw dirt at me, but is like the great promoters of it, foolish as well as false : it labours only to asperse the original author of the Council, which it will have to be one person, and therefore seems to know, and never considers that it is impossible that any statesman should be so mad as to give a counsel of that consequence to a junto or number of men, or to any but the King himself ; who, it is not to be imagined, will ever become a witness against any man in such a case, especially when he hath approved the Council so far as to continue the stop ever since by a new great seal every year. Besides, I am very well armed to clear myself, for it is not impossible for me to prove what my opinion was of it, when it was first proposed to the Council. And if any man consider the circumstance of time when it was done, that it was the prologue of making the Lord Clifford Lord Treasurer ; he will not suspect me of the Council for that business, unless he thinks me at the same time out of my wits. Besides, if any of the bankers do enquire of the clerks of the Treasury, with whom they are well acquainted, they will find that Sir John Duncome and I were so little satisfied with that way of proceeding, as, from the time of the stop, we instantly quitted all paying and borrowing of money, and the whole transaction of that part of the affair to the Lord Clifford, by whom from that time forward, it was only managed. I shall not deny, but that I knew earlier of the counsel, and foresaw what necessarily must produce it sooner



than other men, having the advantage of being more versed in the King's secret affairs ; but I hope it will not be expected by any that do in the least know me, that I should have discovered the King's secret, or betrayed his business, whatever my thoughts were of it. This worthy scribbler, if his law be true, or his quotation to the purpose, should have taken notice of the combination of the bankers, who take the protection of the Court, and do not take the remedy of the law against those upon whom they had assignments, by which they might have been enabled to pay their creditors ; for it is not to be thought that the King will put a stop to their legal proceedings in a court of justice. Besides, if the writer had been really concerned for the bankers, he would have spoken a little freelier against the continuing of the stop in a time of peace, as well as against the first making of it in a time of war ; for, as I remember, there were some reasons offered for the first that had their weight, namely, that the bankers were grown destructive to the nation, especially to the country gentlemen and farmers, and their interest : that under the pretence, and by the advantage of lending the King money upon very great use, they got all the ready money of the kingdom into their hands ; so that no gentleman, farmer, or merchant, could, without great difficulty, compass money for their occasions, unless at almost double the rate the law allowed to be taken. That, as to the King's affairs, they were grown to that pass, that twelve in the hundred did not content them ; but they bought up all the King's assignment at twenty or thirty per cent. profit, so that the King was at a fifth part loss in all the issue of his whole revenue. Besides, in support of the Council, I remember it was alleged by them that favoured it without doors—for I speak only of them—that the King might, without any damage to the subject, or unreasonable oppression upon the bankers, pay them six in the hundred interest during the war, and 300,000*l.* each year of their principal, as soon as there was peace ; which, why it is not now done, the learned writer, I believe, hath friends can best tell him. This I write, that you may show my friends or any body else. The messenger staying for me, I have written it in haste, and not kept a copy, therefore, I pray, lose not the letter.

“ I am sorry you are like to fare so ill in your place, but you know where your company is ever most desirable and acceptable. Pray let me see you speedily, and I shall be ready to accommodate you in your annuity at seven years' purchase, if you get not elsewhere a better bargain ; for I

would leave you free from care, and think of living long and at ease.  
This from,

Dear Sir,

Your truly affectionate friend and servant,

SHAFTESBURY."

"MR. LOCKE,

London, March 20, <sup>79</sup>/<sub>80</sub>.

"WE long to see you here, and hope you have almost ended your travels. Somersetshire, no doubt, will perfect your breeding; after France and Oxford, you could not go to a more proper place. My wife finds you profit much there, for you have recovered your skill in Cheddar cheese, and for a demonstration have sent us one of the best we have seen. I thank you for your care about my grandchild, but having wearied myself with consideration every way, I resolve to have him in my house; I long to speak with you about it. For news we have little, only our Government here are so truly zealous for the advancement of the Protestant religion, as it is established in the Church of England, that they are sending the common Prayer-book the second time into Scotland. No doubt but my Lord Lauderdale knows it will agree with their present constitution; but surely he was much mistaken when he administered the Covenant to England; but we shall see how the tripodes and the holy altar will agree. My Lord of Ormond is said to be dying, so that you have Irish and Scotch news; and for English, you make as much at Bristol as in any part of the kingdom. Thus recommending you to the protection of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, (whose strong beer is the only spiritual thing any Somersetshire gentleman knows,) I rest,

Your very affectionate and assured friend,

SHAFTESBURY."

Anthony Collins gives the following account of that interesting paper, which details the whole proceedings in the House of Lords during the long-contested Bill for imposing what was called the Bishops' test. It is published in Locke's works under the title of A Letter from a Person of Quality to his Friend in the Country. By that Bill, entitled "An Act to prevent the dangers which may arise from persons disaffected to the Government," brought in by the Court party in April and May 1675, all such as enjoyed any

beneficial office, or employment, civil or military, to which was afterwards added Privy Counsellors, Justices of the Peace, and Members of Parliament, were under a penalty to take the oath, and make the declaration and abhorrence following :

“I, A.B. do declare that it is not lawful upon any pretence whatever, to take up arms against the King ; and that I do abhor the traitorous position of taking up arms by his authority, against his person, or against those that are commissioned by him ; and I do swear that I will not at any time endeavour the alteration of the Government either in Church or State. So help me God.”

Such of the Lords as had no dependance upon the Court, and were distinguished by the name of the Country Lords, looked upon this bill as a step the Court was making to introduce arbitrary power, and they opposed it so vigorously, that the debate lasted five several days before it was committed to a Committee of the whole House, and afterwards it took up sixteen or seventeen whole days, the house sitting many times till eight or nine of the clock at night, and sometimes till midnight. However, after several alterations, which they were forced to make, it passed the Committee, but a contest arising between the two Houses concerning their privileges, they were so inflamed against each other, that the King thought it advisable to prorogue the Parliament, so the Bill was never reported from the Committee to the House.

The debates occasioned by that bill failed not to make a great noise throughout the whole kingdom ; and because there were very few persons duly apprised thereof, and every body spoke of it as they stood affected, my Lord Shaftesbury, who was at the head of the Country party, thought it necessary to publish an account of every thing that had passed upon that occasion, in order not only to open the people's eyes upon the secret views of the Court, but to do justice to the Country Lords, and thereby to secure to them the continuance of the affection and attachment of such as were of the same opinion with themselves, which was the most considerable part of the nation. But though this Lord had all the faculties of an



orator, yet not having time to exercise himself in the art of writing, he desired Mr. Locke to draw up the relation, which he did under his Lordship's inspection, and only committed to writing what my Lord Shaftesbury did in a manner dictate to him: accordingly, you will find in it a great many strokes which could proceed from nobody but my Lord Shaftesbury himself; and amongst others, the characters and eulogiums of such Lords as had signalised themselves in the cause of public liberty.

The letter was privately printed soon afterwards, and the Court was so incensed at it, that at the next meeting of Parliament, towards the end of the year 1675, the Court party, who still kept the ascendant in the House of Lords, ordered it to be burned by the common hangman. "The particular relation of the debate," says the ingenious Mr. Marvel, "which lasted many days with great eagerness on both sides, and the reasons but on one, was, in the next sessions, burnt by order of the Lords, but the sparks of it will eternally fly in their adversaries faces."

The following letter, in Locke's hand-writing, indorsed Charles II. to Sir George Downing, was probably procured from Lord Shaftesbury.

"SIR GEORGE DOWNING,

White Hall, Jan. 16, O. S. 167½.

"I have seen all the letters to my Lord Arlington since your arrival in Holland, and because I find you sometimes divided in your opinion betwixt what seems good to you for my affairs in the various emergencies and appearances there, and what my instructions direct you, that you may not err in the future, I have thought fit to send you my last mind upon the hinge of the whole negotiation, and in my own hand, that you may likewise know it is your part to obey punctually my orders, instead of putting yourself to the trouble of finding reasons why you do not do so, as I find in your last of the 12th current. And first you must know I am entirely secure that France will join with me against Holland, and not separate from me for any offers Holland can make to them; next, I do allow of your transmitting to me the States' answer to your Memorial concerning the



flags, and that you stay there expecting my last resolution upon it, declaring that you cannot proceed to any new matter till you receive it: but upon the whole matter, you must always know my mind and resolution is, not only to insist upon the having my flag saluted even on their very shores, (as it was always practised,) but in having my dominion of the seas asserted, and Van Guent exemplarily punished. Notwithstanding all this, I would have you use your skill so to amuse them that they may not finally despair of me, and thereby give me time to make myself more ready, and leave them more remiss in their preparations. In the last place, I must again enjoin you to spare no cost in informing yourself exactly how ready their ships of war are in all their ports, how soon they are like to put to sea, and to send what you learn of this kind hither with all speed.

I am, your loving friend,

CHARLES R."

In 1675, Locke went to reside in France for the benefit of his health, and, from the time of his landing at Calais, he kept a daily *Journal*, from which the following extracts have been made. The original contains a description of the country, and of such things as were best worth seeing in the different towns of France. It describes with much minuteness and accuracy the cultivation of the vine and olive country, the different processes of the fermentation of wine, and of preparing the oils, and the different sorts of fruit there in highest estimation. It gives an account of mechanical and other contrivances, and objects of use and convenience, then more common in France than in England. There are also many medical observations, many notes and references to books, which it has been thought proper for the sake of brevity to omit. For the same reason, the first part only of the *Journal* has been printed verbatim: it has afterwards been much curtailed, and the notes and dissertations on different subjects, interspersed in different parts, are collected together in a connected form at the end of these extracts. In general, the particulars which have been selected from the *Journal*, are such as are either curious and interesting, as records of former times, or as they

afford a contrast between the present prosperous state of France and its former condition ; where the extremes of splendour and misery marked the nature of the old and despotic Government, the paradise of monarchs and courtiers, but the purgatory of honest and industrious citizens and peasants, whom French lawyers were pleased to describe, and French nobles to treat, as “*tailleable et corvéable*” animals, who lived, and moved, and had their beings only for the benefit of the privileged orders.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL.\*

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THE way from Boulogne is made up of hills and plains, covered with corn or woods; in the latter we looked out for our friends of St. Omers, but the Dons were afraid of the French or of us, (I do not imagine they had any aversion to our money,) and so we saw no more whiskers. After this, those that had money thought it their own, and believed their clothes might last them to Paris, where the tailors lie in wait: and I know not whether they with their yards and sheers, or the trooper, with his sword and pistol, be the more dangerous creature. We marched on merrily the remainder of the day to Montreuil; supper was ready before our boots were off, and being fish, as soon digested.

DEC. 1.—Early on a frosty morning we were, with all the train, on our march to Abbeville, ten leagues: it is a large town on the Amiens river: here his Excellency dismissed his St. Omer's trumpeter.

2nd. The Ambassador resolving to go by Amiens, our governor, the messenger, resolved to take the ordinary road by Poy, which we, who went to seek adventure beyond Paris, easily consented to. We therefore plodded on nine leagues to Poy; we were no sooner got into our chambers, but we thought we were come there too soon, as the highway seemed the cleaner and more desirable place. It being decreed we must stay there all night, I called, en-

\* The Journal begins 30th November, 1675.

treated, and swaggered a good while for a pair of slippers ; at last they brought them, and I sat me down on the only seat we had in our apartment, which at present was a form, but had formerly been a wooden-horse : I thought to ease myself by standing, but with no very good success, I assure you ; for the soles of my pantofles being sturdy timber, had very little compliance for my feet, and so made it somewhat uncomfortable to keep myself, as the French call it, on one end. This small taste of sabot gave me a surfeit of them, and I should not make choice of a country to pass my pilgrimage in where they are in fashion : as we had but two pair between three of us, there could not be a nicer case in breeding than to know whether to take, offer, or refuse their use. Many compliments, I assure you, passed on the occasion ; we shuffled favour, obligation, and honour, and many such words, (very useful in travelling,) forward and backward until supper came ; here we thought to divert our pain, but we quickly found a supper of ill meat, and worse cooking : soup and ragout, and such other words of good savour, lost here their relish quite, and out of five or six dishes, we patched up a very uncomfortable supper. But be it as rascally as it was, it must not fail to be fashionable ; we had the ceremony of first and second course, and a desert at the close : whatever the fare, the treat must be in all its formality, with some haws, if no better, under the fine name of *Pomet de Paradise*. After supper, we retreated to the place that usually gives relief to all moderate calamities, but our beds were antidotes to sleep : I do not complain of the hardness, but the tangible quality of what was next me, and the savour of all about made me quite forget both slippers and supper. As we had a long journey of twelve leagues to go next day, our stay was fortunately short here : we were roused before day, and all were glad to be released from the prison ; we willingly left it to the miserable souls who were to succeed us. If Paris be heaven, (for the French, with their usual justice, extol it above all things on earth,) Poy certainly is purgatory in the way to it.

DEC. 3.—We dined at Beauvais, where I saw nothing remarkable



except the quire of a church, very high and stately, built, as they say, by the English, who, it seems, had not time to complete the whole, and the French have never thought fit to finish it. If the nave of the church were added, it would be a magnificent structure. As far as I have observed of the churches of both countries, to make them in every way exact, we ought to build, and they to adorn them. Hence, we went three leagues to Tilliard to bed. Good mutton, and a good supper, clean linen of the country, and a pretty girl to lay it, (who was an angel compared with the fiends at Poy,) made us some amends for the past night's suffering. Do not wonder that a man of my constitution and gravity mentions to you a handsome face amongst his remarks, for I imagine that a traveller, though he carry a cough with him, goes not out of his way when he takes notice of strange and extraordinary things.

DEC. 4.—We dined at Beaumont. This being the last assembly we were like to have of our company, 'twas thought convenient here to even some small account had happened upon the road: one of the Frenchmen, who had disbursed for our troop, was, by the natural quickness of his temper, carried beyond the mark, and demanded for our shares more than we thought due. Whereupon, one of the English desired an account of particulars, not that the whole was so considerable, but to keep a certain custom we had in England, not to pay money without knowing for what. Monsieur answered briskly, he would give no account; the other as briskly, that he would have it: this produced a reckoning of the several disbursements, and an abatement of one-fourth of the demand, and a great demonstration of good nature. Monsieur steward showed afterwards more civility and good nature, after the little contest, than he had done all the journey before.

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Thus, in seven days, we came from Paris to Lyons, 100 leagues; the passage to Chalons was troublesome; from Chalons, by water, was very easy and convenient, and the river quiet.

21st. Lyons.—We visited Mr. Charleton, who treated us extreme

civilly. They showed us, upon the top of the hill, a church, now dedicated to the Virgin, which was formerly a Temple of Venus : near it dwelt Thomas Becket, when banished from England.

22nd. We saw the Jesuits' College ; a large quadrangle, surrounded by high buildings, having the walls covered with pretty well-painted figures. The library is the best that ever I saw, except Oxford, being one very high oblong square, with a gallery round to come at the books : it is yet but moderately furnished with books, being made, as they told us, not above a year. The College is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Rhone, and hath a very excellent prospect. Saw M. Servis's museum of pumps, clocks, and curiosities.

23rd. Saw St. John's Church, the cathedral, a very plain, ordinary building, nothing very observable but the clock, which they say cost 20,000 livres : at every hour, the image of an old man, designed for the Father, shakes his hand ; this is what is most looked at, but of least moment, there being other things far more considerable ; as the place of the sun, dominical letter, Epact. moveable feasts, and other things of an almanack, for almost a hundred years to come.

24th. I saw a little Castle, called Pierre en Cise, upon the river Soane, at the entrance into the town. It is a place used to keep prisoners ; indeed, it is much better fitted to keep criminals in, than enemies out. It is a little, irregular fortification on a rock, which hath a precipice on all sides, and is high towards the river, and two other sides, but commanded by hills much higher ; here Fouquet was once prisoner. Here the hill on the left-hand turns short towards the Rhone, and leaves a long plain neck of land between the two rivers, on which the greatest part of Lyons is built, in narrow, irregular streets ; stone houses, flat-roofed, covered with pantiles, and some turrets, and the angle of the roofs with tin. A good part of the town lies also on the right-hand of the Soane ; and the sides of the hills are covered with houses, gardens, and vineyards, so that it is a pleasant place. The town-house is a stately building.

25th. Saw a fine fair prospect of the town from the hills on the north side. The Hotel Dieu, a fair large hospital, containing, as they told me, five hundred sick persons: they lie in a room which is a large cross, and three rows of beds in each: two of the arms of the cross have men, and two women; in the centre is an altar.

26th. I saw the Charité, consisting of nine square courts, and there are in them 1500, as I am told, maintained and lodged here. They receive bastards, and as soon as they are able, employ them in winding silk, the manner whereof, it being holiday, we could not see. The most considerable thing we saw was their granary, one hundred steps long, and thirty-six broad, windows open all round: there are constantly in it 6000 asnées of wheat, one asnée is an ass load of six bushels. They turn the corn every day, about which seven men are employed; when the boys are grown up, they bind them out to traders. It is a noble foundation, and has a large revenue.

27th. By the old town of Vienne to St. Vallier, through a pleasant valley of the Rhone, with mulberry and walnut trees set in exact quincux at the distance of our apple trees in England.

28th. To Valence, seven leagues. Pretty large town, ill-built; the cathedral the plainest I had any where seen. The Scola Juris et Medicinæ here very mean. As we came along, we passed by the Hermitage, the place so famous for wine; it is on the side of a hill open to the south, and a little west, about a mile long, beginning just at Thuin. We also saw the citadel, which we got into with some difficulty, and there was reason for the caution, we being four, and there being a garrison in it of but one man and one great gun, which was left behind (when the King lately took away all the rest for his ships) for a fault very frequent in this country viz. in the touch-hole.

29th. Montelimart. Streets broad and buildings better, though not altogether so big as Valence.

30th. To Pont St. Esprit, five leagues. To this place we had the Rhone on our right-hand, and the high barren hills of Dauphiné



on the left. The valley is in some places a league or two broad ; in some broader, and in some very narrow. In great part of the journey from Lyons, the soil was covered with great round pebbles, in some places so thick that no earth was seen, and yet all along the corn was sown. In many places the mulberry trees and almonds, set in quincux, covered the corn as thick as apple-trees in an orchard in England. We saw several digging the ground, and some ploughing, with a very little light plough with one handle, drawn by a pair of cows, steers, or asses. The soil very light and sandy ; they turn it up not above two or three inches deep. In this valley we crossed many rivers and rivulets ; one by ferry, some by bridges and fords, and the channels of some quite dry ; but all appeared to be sometimes great and swift torrents, when either rain or melted snow is poured down into them from the high hills of Dauphine. About half a league from St. Vallier, we saw a house, a little out of the way, where they say Pilate lived in banishment. We met with the owner, who seemed to doubt the truth of the story ; but told us there was Mosaic work very ancient in one of the floors. At Chateau Neuf, we got up a hill which runs directly to the Rhone, and the Rhone through it, as the Avon at the Hot Wells. Much box and lavender : a prospect of a large valley much broader than any part between Vienne and Chateau Neuf. Three leagues to Pallu, a little town belonging to the Pope. One league from hence, we came to Pont St. Esprit, a bridge over the Rhone, on eighteen great arches, 1100 of my steps ; the ascent to the top one hundred and twenty steps, over six lesser arches on the east side : they reckon twenty-seven arches in all, besides a little one between each of the eighteen great arches. The bridge is very narrow, paved with little square stones very regularly placed ; at the end of it, on the west side, is the town of St. Esprit, and a citadel ; in it we saw some soldiers, and a few unmounted small brass guns. The bridge is not exactly straight, but about the middle makes an obtuse angle towards the current of the river.

Three leagues from Pont St. Esprit, we came to Orange, a little



town within a square wall, less than Bath within the walls. The half-moons at the entrance of the gate are demolished by the King of France, and the castles, which were upon a rocky hill just over it. Here we also saw Marius's triumphal arch, a piece of very handsome building with trophies and Marius's old sybil on it. There remains also a very stately piece of Roman building, very high, and one hundred and seventy-six of my steps in front, on seventeen arches: they call it an amphitheatre; but the figure of it seems not at all to favour that opinion, being thus [ ] as it now stands. There is also in the floor of a little house, mosaic work very perfect; there was but one figure, which was of a cat. Here I also saw the way of winding silk by an engine, that turns at once an hundred and thirty-four bobbins; it is too intricate to be described on so short a view; but all these were turned by one woman, and they both twisted and wound off the silk at once. The proportion of population of the town, are twelve Protestants to nine Papists; two Protestant and two Papist consuls; two Protestant churches in the town: one we were in is a pretty sort of building, one stone arch, like a bridge, running the whole length of the church, and supporting the rafters, like the main beam of the building; a new but not incommodious way for such a room.

31st. Avignon, four leagues, situated in a large valley on the banks of the Rhone, which goes about half round it; the walls are all entire, and no house near them; battlements and towers at little distances, after the old way of fortification: the streets wider, and the town better built than any between this and Lyons. The Pope's palace, a large old building with high towers; we saw, besides the hall, three or four rooms hung with damask, and in another part of the Palace a large handsome room, where the conclave formerly was kept when the Pope resided here.

JANUARY 1st, 1676. The quire of St. Peter's church very rich in gilding and painting, as is the altar of the Celestins; their convent, a very large one, kept very clean. The Vice-Legate went to the Jesuits' church with a guard of about twelve Swiss. The Jews have

a quarter to themselves, where they have a synagogue ; they wear yellow hats for distinction. Here are some arches standing of a bridge, much after the fashion of Pont St. Esprit ; it fell down some years since, and to encourage the rebuilding of it, they have the last year set up the statue of one St. Benedict, a shepherd, who built the former bridge. The Rhone, in November 1674, rose fifteen feet higher than the top of the water as it now is ; we saw marks of the inundation far from the river. Avignon is governed by a Vice-Legate ; the employment is worth about 5,000*l.* sterling. There is no tax laid upon the country, which is long and broad ; the greatest part of the trade is silk, and the people look comfortable and thriving. We paid one livre per meal for each of us, and one livre per night per horse.

2nd. We passed the Rhone partly by the trill, a way of ferry usual in these parts, and partly by the remains of the bridge. Our portmanteaus were not searched as we expected ; our voiturin made us pass for Swiss. Hence we went to Pont du Gard, an admirable structure ; some of the arches of the second row were thirty steps wide. Saw them preparing their vines ; some pruned.

3rd. To Nismes. Here we saw the amphitheatre, an admirable structure of very large stones, built apparently without mortar : at the entrance, which is under an arch, the wall is seventeen paces thick ; ascending the stairs, we come to a walk, in which there are towards the outside sixty arches in the whole circumference, the space of each arch being eleven of my paces, 660 of my steps in a circle two or three yards inside the outmost bounds of it. In all those arches, to support the walls over the passage where you go round, there is a stone laid, about twenty inches or two feet square, and about six times the length of my sword, which was near about a philosophical yard long ; upon which were turned other arches contrary to those by which the light entered ; most of these stones I observed to be cracked, which I suppose might be the effect of the fire which Deyron tells us, in his "*Antiquités de Nismes*," the Christians heretofore applied, with design to destroy this amphitheatre.

It would hold 20,000 persons, and was built by Antoninus Pius, of great squared stones, almost as hard as grey marble. Thus stands, almost entire yet, this wonderful structure, in spite of the force of 1,500 years, and the attempts of the first Christians, who, both by fire and with tools, endeavoured to ruin it. There are many other antiquities in this town. For the use of Nismes, the Pont du Gard was built over the river Gardon, on three rows of arches, one over the other; it carried the water of the fountain d'Aure to Nismes, from whence it is three leagues; but the aqueduct, sometimes carried on arches, sometimes cut through rocks, is four leagues long.

The Protestants at Nismes have now but one temple, the other being pulled down by the King's order about four years since. Two of their consuls are Papists, and two Protestants, but are not permitted to receive the sacrament in their robes as formerly. The Protestants had built themselves an hospital for their sick, but that is taken from them; a chamber in it is left for their sick, but never used, because the Priests trouble them when there; but notwithstanding their discouragement, I do not find that many of them go over: one of them told me, when I asked him the question, that the Papists did nothing but by force or money.

4th. We arrived at Montpellier late in the night, having dined at a Protestant inn, at Lunel, three leagues from Montpellier, where we were well used. We paid our voiturin twelve crowns a piece from Lyons hither; when we went out of the way, we were to pay for our own and the horses' meat, fifteen sous dinner, twenty-five supper, (for all the company eat together,) and fifteen sous horse-meat a night.

8th. I walked, and found them gathering of olives, a black fruit, the bigness of an acorn, with which the trees were thick hung.

All the high-ways are filled with gamesters at mall, so that walkers are in some danger of knocks.

9th. I walked to a fine garden, a little mile from the town; the walks were bays and some others, cypress-trees of great height and some pine-trees: at the entrance there is a fair large pond, where



it is said the ladies bathe in summer, and if the weather of mid-summer answer the warmth of this day, the ladies will certainly need a cooler. Furniture of the kitchens, some pewter, some brass, and abundance of pipkins. All the world at mall, and the mountebank's tricks.

13th. Several asses and mules laden with green brushwood, of evergreen oak and bays, brought to town for fuel; most of their labour done by mules and asses. Between Lyons and Vienne we met people riding post on asses; and on the road we met several mules, some whereof we were told had 800 weight upon them, and several women riding astride, some with caps and feathers: we met more people travelling between Lyons and Montpellier by much, than between Paris and Lyons, where were very few.

14th. The women carrying earth in little baskets on their heads, running in their sabots as they returned for new burthens. Wages for men twelve sous, for women five sous, at this time; in summer, about harvest, eighteen for men, and seven for women.

18th. About nine in the morning, I went to the town-house, where the States of Languedoc, which were then assembled in the town, used to sit every day. The room is a fair room; at the upper end, in the middle, is a seat, higher somewhat than the rest, where the Duc de Vernule, governor of the Province, sits, when he comes to the assembly, which is but seldom, and only upon occasions of proposing something to them. At other times, Cardinal Bonzi, who is Archbishop of Narbonne, takes that seat which is under the canopy; on the right hand sit the bishops, twenty-two, and the barons, twenty-five; the deputies of the town about forty-four. About ten they began to drop into the room, where the bishops put on their habits, richly laced; cardinal in scarlet: when he arrives, away they go to mass at Notre Dame, a church just by, and so about eleven they return and begin to sit, and rise again at twelve, seldom sitting in the afternoon, but upon extraordinary occasions; they are constantly assembled four months in the year, beginning in October, and ending in February.

19. The Physic garden, well contrived for plants of all sorts,



open and shady and boggy, set most in high beds, as it were in long stone troughs, with walks between, and numbers in order engraved on the stone, to direct the student to the plant.

Then follows a long description of the management of a vineyard which is omitted; description and process of making verdigrise omitted; description of olive harvest and oil pressing, all of which are omitted.

Uzes a town in the province, not far from Nismes, was wont to send every year a Protestant Deputy to the Assembly of the States at Montpellier, the greatest part being Protestant; but they were forbid to do it this year; and this week the Protestants have an order from the King to choose no more consuls of the town of their religion, and their temple is ordered to be pulled down, the only one they have left there, though three quarters of the town be Protestants. The pretence given is, that their temple being too near the papist church, their singing of psalms disturbed the service.

FEB. 1. Here was in the street a bustle; the cause this, some that were listing soldiers slid money into a countryman's pocket, and then would force him to go with them, having, as they said, received the King's money; he refused to go, and the women, by crowding and force, redeemed him. These artifices are employed where pressing is not allowed; it is a usual trick, if any one drink the King's health, to give him press money, and force him to go a soldier, pretending that having drank his health, he is bound to fight for him.

Interest by law here is  $6\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. but those who have good credit may borrow at five.

The King has made an edict, that those who merchandize, but do not use the yard, shall not lose their gentility.

Drums beat for soldiers, and five Luis d'or offered to any one that would list himself. Their coin is thus:—

1 pistol Luis d'or.	11 livres.
1 ecu.	3 livres.
1 livre.	20 sous.

5th. Sunbeams rather troublesome. A little out of Montpellier,

westward, is a bed of oyster-shells, in a hollow way, in some places two yards under the ground ; it appeared all along, for a good way ; some of the shells perfectly fit one to the other, and dirt in the place where the oysters lay ; the place where they lie, is much higher than the present level of the sea.

Q.—Have not these been left there by the sea, since retreated ?

The Protestants have here common justice generally, unless it be against a new convert, whom they will favour ; they pay no more taxes than their neighbours, but are incapable of public charges and offices. They have had, within these ten years at least, 160 churches pulled down. They and the Papist laity live together friendly enough in these parts ; they sometimes get, and sometimes lose, proselytes. There is nothing done against those that come over to the reformed religion, unless they be such as have before turned Papists, and relapsed ; these sometimes they prosecute. The number of Protestants in these latter years neither increases nor decreases much ; those that go over to the Church of Rome, are usually drawn away by fair promises, which most commonly fail them : the Protestant live not better than the Papist.

Sent several sorts of vines to England, Muscat, Corinth, Marokin, St. John's, Claret.

They seldom make red wine without the mixture of some sorts of white grapes, else it would be too thick and deep coloured.

The States every morning go to Notre Dame to prayers, where mass is sung ; while the priest is at the altar saying the mass, you cannot hear him a word ; indeed the music is the pleasanter of the two. The Cardinal and the bishops are all on the right hand of the quire, that is, standing at the altar and looking to the west end of the church ; and all the lay barons to the left, or south side ; the Cardinal sat nearest the altar, and had a velvet cushion richly laced, the bishops had none ; the Cardinal repeated part of the office with an unconcerned look, talking every now and then, and laughing with the bishops next him.

8th. This day the Assembly of the State was dissolved : they

have all the solemnity and outward appearance of a Parliament : the King proposes, and they debate and resolve ; here is all the difference, that they never do, and some say, dare not, refuse whatever the King demands ; they gave the King this year, 2,100,000 livres, and for their liberality are promised no soldiers shall quarter in this country, which nevertheless sometimes happens. When soldiers are sent to quarter in Montpellier, as some Switz did here, that were going towards Catalonia ; the magistrates of the town gave them billets, and take care according to the billet that their landlords be paid eight sous per diem for each foot soldier, which is paid by the town. Beside the 2,100,000 given the King for this year, they gave him also for the canal 300,000 livres, and besides all this, they maintain 11,000 men in Catalonia raised and paid by this province. These taxes, and all public charges come sometimes to eight, sometimes to twelve per cent. of the yearly value of estates.

The State being to break up to-day, the ceremony was this : Te Deum was sung in the State-house ; and that being done, the Cardinal, with a very good grace, gave the benediction, first putting on his cap ; and at the latter end of the benediction he pulled off his cap, made a cross first towards the bishops, then towards the nobility, then straight forward towards the people, who were on their knees.

Mr. Herbert's man enticed into a shop, and there fallen upon by three or four : a man shot dead by another in the street : the same happened at Lyons when I was there.

11th. At the Carmes' church this day was an end of their octave of open house, as one may say, upon the occasion of the canonization of St. John de Croix, one of their Order lately canonized at Rome, dead eighty years ago. During the eight days of the celebration, there was plenary indulgence over the door, and a pavilion with emblems, and his picture in the middle ; this, being the close of the solemnity, there was a sermon, which was the recital of his life, virtues, and miracles he did : as preserving his baptismal grace



and innocence to the end of his life, his driving out evil spirits of the possessed, &c. Music at the vespers; the Duc de Vernules present; the Duchess and her guard of musketeers with her.

The usual rate of good oil here, is three to four livres a quartal of eight pots.

12th. I visited Mr. Birto. The Protestants have not had a general synod these ten years: a provincial synod of Languedoc they have of course every year, but not without leave from the King, wherein they make ecclesiastical laws for this province, but suitable still to the laws made by the national synod. Their synod consists of about fifty pastors, and as many deacons or elders; they have power to reprehend or wholly displace any scandalous pastor; they also admit people to ordination, and to be pastors in certain churches, nobody being by them admitted into orders that hath not a place. The manner is this: when any church wants a pastor, as for example, at Montpellier, if any of their four pastors is dead or gone, the candidates apply themselves to the consistory of that church; whom they like best, they appoint to preach before the congregation; if they approve, he presents himself at the next synod, and they appoint four pastors to examine him in the tongues, university learning, and divinity; especially he is to produce the testimonials of the university where he studied, of his life and learning: he preaches a French and Latin sermon, and if all these are passable, they appoint two pastors to ordain him, who, after a sermon on the duties of a minister, come out of the pulpit and read several chapters to him out of the Epistles, wherein the minister's duty is considered; and then, after a prayer, they lay their hands upon him and make a declaration, that by authority of the synod, he has power to preach, to forgive sins, to bless marriages, and to administer the sacrament; after this, he is minister of the place. His allowance depends on the consistory.

If any one hold tenets here contrary to their articles of faith, the King punishes him; so that you must here be either of the Romish or of their church. For not long since, it happened to



one here, who was inclining to, and vented some Arian doctrines, the Governor complained to the King ; he sent order that he should be tried, and so was sent to Thoulouse, where upon trial, he denying it utterly, he was permitted to escape out of prison ; but had he owned it, he had been burnt as an heretic.

The State have given 400,000 livres for each of the next four years ; having given 300,000 for the last six years, in all 3,400,000 for carrying on the canal, besides other taxes, toward the war. Montpellier has 30,000 people in it, of whom there are 8000 communicants of the Protestant church. They tell me the number of Protestants within the last twenty or thirty years has manifestly increased here, and do daily, notwithstanding their loss every day of some privilege or other. Their consistories had power formerly to examine witnesses upon oath, which within these ten years has been taken from them.

Parasols, a pretty sort of cover for women riding in the sun, made of straw, something like the fashion of tin covers for dishes.

The Deputies of the State are all paid by their respective towns and countries, fifty ecus per month, but the Bishops and Barons receive it not : of the twenty-two Bishops, seventeen have revenues, about 3,000*l.* sterling ; the other five much more.

15th. Bought of a Genoese twelve orange and citron trees, at one livre a piece.

All the power of church discipline is in the Consistory ; that of Montpellier consists of their four pastors, and twenty-four anciens ; these, by a majority of votes, order all the church affairs, public stock, censures, &c. the majority of votes determines the matter, though there be no one of the pastors of that side. If there is any controversy of law amongst them, they refer it to some of the sober gentry of the town and lawyers that are Protestants ; they have still six counsellors of their religion, and the advocates may be of what religion they please.

The Church censures are managed thus : if any one live scandalously, they first reprove him in private ; if he mends not, he is

called before the Consistory, and admonished; if that works not, the same is done in the public congregation; if after all he stands incorrigible, he is excluded from the Eucharist.

18th. Shrove-day, the height and consummation of the Carnival: the town filled with masquerades for the last week; dancing in the streets in all manner of habits and disguises, to all sorts of music, brass kettles and frying pans not excepted.

Grana kermes grow on a shrub of the size of the chene vert, called *ilex coccifera*, are a sort of oak apples with little insects in them.

Sent by Mr. Waldo seeds for England.

19th. Ash Wednesday. Public admonitions happen seldom: the last instances were, one for striking a cuff on the ear in the church, on a communion-day, for which he was hindered from receiving; the other for marrying his daughter to a Papist, for which he stood excommunicated six months. It reaches no farther than exclusion from the Eucharist, not from church or sermons.

Here follow accurate notes of weights and measures. A detailed account of the Church of France, Archbishops, Bishops, Abbés, &c. their revenue is estimated *in toto* at twenty-four millions sterling.

21st. The King has made a law that persons of different religion shall not marry, which often causes the change of religion, especially *sequioris sexus*.

At church to-day abundance of coughing.

24th. The Province of Languedoc is thus governed: the Duke of Vernule, the Governor, commands over the whole Province, and has a power somewhat like the King's, though he be more properly Lord Lieutenant. I do not hear that he meddles at all in judicial causes, either civil or criminal: in his absence, the Province is divided into three districts, each having a Deputy-governor with the same power; every city also has its governor, whose power is much like the governor of a garrison. Montpellier has six Consuls, who have the government of the police of the town, look after weights and measures, determine causes under five livres: they had for-

merly a considerable authority, but now they are little more than servants of the governor of the town ; they were formerly three Protestants and three Papists, but the Protestants are excluded the last year.

The civil causes are judged by the Court of Aides ; the premier president, and eight presidents, and thirty counsellors ; the cause determined by plurality of votes.

Then follows an account of the several criminal courts, and of the taxes.

From these taxes are exempted all noble land, which is to pay a year's value to the King every twenty years ; but as they order the matter, they pay not above three-quarters of a year's value. All ancient privileged land of the Church is also exempt, but if any is given to the Church that hath been used to pay taxes, it pays it after the donation : besides this, excise is paid on several commodities.

25th. Very high wind.

#### OBLIGATION OF PENAL LAWS.

There are virtues and vices antecedent to, and abstract from, society, as love of God, unnatural lust : other virtues and vices there are which suppose society and laws, as obedience to magistrates, or dispossessing a man of his heritage ; in both these the rule and obligation is antecedent to human laws, though the matter about which that rule is, may be consequent to them, as property in land, distinction, and power of persons. All things not commanded, or forbidden by the law of God, are indifferent, nor is it in the power of man to alter their nature ; and so no human law can lay any obligation on the conscience, and therefore all human laws are purely penal, i. e. have no other obligation but to make the transgressors liable to punishment in this life. All divine laws oblige the conscience, i. e. render the transgressors liable to answer at God's tribunal, and receive punishment at his hands ; but because very frequently both these obligations concur, the same action comes to be commanded or forbidden by both laws together, and so in these cases men's consciences are obliged. Men have thought that civil



laws oblige their consciences to entire obedience ; whereas, in things, in their own nature indifferent, the conscience is obliged only to active or passive obedience, and that not by virtue of that human law which the man either practises or is punished by, but by that law of God which forbids disturbance or dissolution of governments. The Gospel alters not in the least civil affairs, but leaves husband and wife, master and servant, magistrate and subject, every one of them, with the same power and privileges that it found them, neither more nor less ; and, therefore, when the New Testament says, obey your superiors in all things, it cannot be thought that it laid any new obligation upon the Christians after their conversion, other than what they were under before ; nor that the magistrate had any other extent of jurisdiction over them than over his heathen subjects : so that the magistrate has the same power still over his Christian as he had over his heathen subjects ; so that, where he had power to command, they had still, notwithstanding the liberty and privileges of the gospel, obligations to obey.

Now, amongst heathen politics, (which cannot be supposed to be instituted by God for the preservation and propagation of true religion,) there can be no other end assigned, but the preservation of the members of that society in peace and safety together : this being found to be the end, will give us the rule of civil obedience. For if the end of civil society be civil peace, the immediate obligation of every subject must be to preserve that society or government which was ordained to produce it ; and no member of any society can possibly have any obligation of conscience beyond this. So that he that obeys the magistrate to the degree, as not to endanger or disturb the government, under what form of government soever he live, fulfilling all the law of God concerning government, i. e. obeys to the utmost that the magistrate or society can oblige his conscience, which can be supposed to have no other rule set it by God but this. The end of the institution being always the measure of the obligation of conscience then upon every subject, being to



preserve the government, 'tis plain, that where any law is made with a penalty, is submitted to, i. e. the penalty is quietly undergone, the government cannot be disturbed or endangered; for whilst the magistrate has power to increase the penalty, even to the loss of life, and the subject submits patiently to the penalty, which he is in conscience obliged to do, the government can never be in danger, nor can the public want active obedience in any case where it hath power to require it under pain of death; for no man can be supposed to refuse his active obedience in a lawful or indifferent thing, when the refusal will cost him his life, and lose all his civil rights at once, for want of performing one civil action; for civil laws have only to do with civil actions.

This, thus stated, clears a man from that infinite number of sins that otherwise he must unavoidably be guilty of, if all penal laws oblige the conscience farther than this. One thing farther is to be considered, that all human laws are penal, for where the penalty is not expressed, it is by the judge to be proportioned to the consequence and circumstance of the fault. See the practice of the King's Bench. Penalties are so necessary to civil laws, that God found it necessary to annex them, even to the civil laws he gave the Jews.

29th. The goodness of Muscat wine to drink depends on two causes, besides the pressing and ordering the fermentation; one, is the soil they plant in, on which very much depends the goodness of the wine; and it is a constant rule, setting aside all other qualities of the soil, that the vineyard must have an opening towards the east or south, or else no good is to be expected. The other is a mingling of good sorts of vines in their vineyards. Then follow description of planting vineyards, manuring them: the same then of olive.

MAR. 3d. At the physical school, a scholar answering the first time, a professor moderating, six other professors oppose, with great violence of Latin, French, grimace, and hand.

5th. To Frontignan, thence to port Cette. The mole at Cette is a mighty work, and far advanced; but the sand in the port now, and the breach made in the mole last winter, show how hard one defends

a place against Neptune, which he attacks with great and small shot too. To the hot-baths at Balaruc. Return to Montpellier

18th. The manner of making a doctor of physic was this: the procession, in scarlet robes, and black caps; the professor took his seat, and after a company of fiddlers had played a certain time, he made them a sign to hold, that he might have an opportunity to entertain the company, which he did with a speech against innovation: the musicians then took their turn. The inceptor then began his speech, wherein I found little edification, being designed to compliment the chancellor and professors who were present; the doctor then put on his head the cap, that had marched in on the beadle's staff, in sign of his doctorship, put a ring on his finger, girt himself about the loins with a gold chain, made him sit down by him; that, having taken pains, he might now take ease, and kissed and embraced him, in token of the friendship that ought to be amongst them.

Monsieur Renaie, a gentleman of the town, in whose house Sir J. Rushworth lay, about four years ago, sacrificed a child to the devil—a child of a servant of his own, upon a design to get the devil to be his friend, and help him to get some money. Several murders committed here since I came, and more attempted; one by a brother on his sister, in the house where I lay.

22nd. The new philosophy of Des Cartes prohibited to be taught in universities, schools, and academies.

24th. Dined at Lunel. To Aigues Mortes. The sea formerly washed the walls, but is now removed a league from the town; there remains only a little étang navigable for very little boats. In the walls on the south side the gates are walled up; there are some iron rings yet remaining, and the sign of others that were fastened in the walls to secure the vessels to. The town, said to have been built by St. Louis, laid out very regularly; the Constance's Tower more ancient. The country round, a great plain for many leagues about, very much covered with water. Nigh the town, is the Marquis de Vard's house, who is governor of the town and country about half a league about, as far as the tower la Carbonier. Passing

between la Carbonier and the town, we saw abundance of partridges, hares, and other game, preserved there by the strict order and severity of the Marquis de Vard, who, not long since, clapped a townsman up in a little hole in Constance Tower, where he had just room to stand upright, but could not sit nor lie down, and kept him there three days, for committing some small trespass on his game. The hedges in this country are all tamerisk.

At Picais is made all the salt that is used in this part of France : the manner is this ; a great square pond, divided into squares by little banks, with channels between each to bring in the salt water, which is raised from the étang by wheels, with wooden buckets. They cover the squares or tables, as they call them, five or six inches deep ; and when the sun has exhaled almost all the moisture, they supply it with more salt-water, and so continue all the heat of the year : at the latter end, they have a cake of salt four or five inches thick, according to the heat and drought of the year. They that are owners of the soil, are at the charge of making the salt, and sell it to the farmers for five sous the minot ; a measure of seven inches deep, and twenty-three and a half diam. weighs one hundred and twenty pounds. The salt which the owner sells for five sous, the farmer sells again for sixteen livres. For this favour, they say the farmers give two millions a year to the King, and are at as much more charge in officers and guards employed, keeping constantly in pay 18,000 men. The defrauding the duty of the commodity is of such consequence, that if a man should be taken with but an handful of salt not bought from the farmers, he would be sent to the galleys.

26th. From Pont Lunel to Castries two long leagues. Here, on the top of a hill, is the house of the Marquis de Castries ; it was begun to be built about eighteen years ago by the late Marquis, the governor of Montpellier. The house is two sides of a square, about sixty steps long, the other side unfinished. At the entrance into the house is the great stair, then the hall, and several other ordinary rooms ; all this lower story is arched. Below the house,



lies a very spacious garden, with a very large basin in it, all imperfect, except an aqueduct, which is a mighty work, too big, one would think, for a private house; by this the water is brought a league distant for the house and garden; some part in a covered channel, winding on the sides of the mountain; some part on a wall seven, eight, or ten feet high, as is occasion; and some part of the way over arches, some whereof are of a great height. To carry it from the side of a mountain over a valley near the house, there are eighty-five arches, most above thirty feet in the clear; the pedestals of the arches ten or twelve feet; the arches are all turned with stone, four feet ten inches, which is the thickness of the arch. They say the house and aqueduct cost 400,000 livres. The descents to the gardens are not by steps, but by gentle declivities very easy and handsome; the walls on the sides of squared stones, just as high as the earth.

We met some travellers; few with boots, many with cloaks, especially purple; none without pistols, even those that rode into the fields to see their workmen.

27th. Rain. Imaginary space seems to me to be no more any thing than an imaginary world; for if a man and his soul remained, and the whole world were annihilated, there is left him the power of imagining either the world, or the extension it had, which is all one with the space it filled; but it proves not that the imaginary space is any thing real or positive. For space or extension, separated in our thoughts from matter or body, seems to have no more real existence, than number has (*sine renumeration*) without any thing to be numbered; and one may as well say, the number of the sea sand does really exist, and is something, the world being annihilated, as that the space or extension of the sea does exist, or is any thing after such annihilation. These are only affections of real existences; the one, of any being whatsoever; the other, only of material beings, which the mind has a power not only to conceive abstractedly, but increase by repetition, or adding one to another, and to enlarge which, it hath not any other ideas but those of



quantity, which amount at last but to the faculty of imagining and repeating, adding units, or numbering. But if the world were annihilated, one had no more reason to think space any thing, than the darkness that will certainly be in it.

28th. The christenings of the religion at Montpellier are about three hundred, and the funerals about two hundred and sixty.

31st. Many murders committed here. He that endeavoured to kill his sister in our house, had before killed a man, and it had cost his father five hundred écus to get him off; by their secret distribution, gaining the favour of the counsellors.

APRIL 2nd. The Papists visit all the churches, or at least seven or eight, and in each say four Paternosters, and five Ave Marias. A crucifix is exposed on the rails of the altar, which they kiss with great devotion, and give money; there being persons set at all the avenues of all the churches with basins to beg.

7th. To Arles. To Marseilles.

9th. A large valley, covered with country-houses, the finest view I had ever seen.

10th. We went on board the Royal, the Admiral's galley; the slaves clad in the King's livery, blue, in the other galleys red. This galley has twenty-nine oars of a side, two hundred and eighty slaves, sixty seamen, five hundred soldiers. The slaves in good plight. At the end of the quay are two docks to build galleys; the docks are covered, to work out of the rain and sunshine. Every galley in this arsenal has its peculiar storehouse. Great bake-houses; storehouses for bread, biscuit, and meat. A great gallery one hundred and twenty fathoms long, to make ropes and cables. An armory well-furnished. A large hospital for sick slaves, all very fit and magnificent. There go out this year twenty-six galleys.

The quay is handsome, and full of people walking, especially in the evening, where the best company meet. Round about the town is a valley encompassed with high hills, or rather rocks, and a vast number of little country-houses, called bastiles, which stand within a bow-shot one of another, some say near 20,000 in number. They

have little plots of ground walled in about them, filled with vines and fruit-trees, olive-trees, artichokes, and corn in most of them.

12th. Set out for Toulon. The mountains, though perfectly rocky, are covered with pine, out of which they draw their turpentine, by cutting the bark and sap of the tree seven or eight rings deep, out of which the turpentine oozes and runs down into a hole cut to receive it ; it is afterwards boiled to resin. When, after many years, this treatment has killed the trees, they make charcoal of them.

13th. The way between high mountains of rocks ; but where the valleys open and there is any earth, they endeavour to preserve it by walls one above the other, on the side of the hills ; it is full of corn, vines, figs. Near Toulon, we saw gardens full of great orange-trees, and myrtles on the sides of the road. In the fair weather, the wind accompanies the sun, and blows east at morning, south at noon, west at night ; and in summer, about noon, constantly a sea-breeze from the south.

We saw the port. In the basin rode the *Royal Louis*, one hundred and sixty-three feet long, forty-five wide, mightily adorned with gilded figures ; cost of gilding 150,000 livres. She has portals for one hundred and twenty guns. The *Dauphin*, of one hundred guns lies near her : by them lay four other great vessels, and nine vessels in the port. The port is very large, capable of holding the biggest fleet in Europe, and in the basin itself there is room for a great fleet. It is separated from the road by a mole, made within these four or five years. The water in most places deep.—*Memo-randa* : A pump with balls instead of windfalls. The crane with the worm.

To Hyeres three leagues. Hyeres is situated on the south side of a high mountain. Below the town, the side of the hill is covered with orange gardens. Ripe China oranges in incredible plenty, sometimes nine or ten in a bunch. These gardens form the most delightful wood I had ever seen ; there are little rivulets of water

conveyed through it to water the trees in summer, without which there would be little fruit. The piece of ground, which formerly yielded thirty-six charges of corn, now yields the owner 30 or 40,000 livres, or rather 18,000, as he pays to the King four hundred écus for tax. For the best China oranges here, we were asked thirty sous per hundred.

Here we had for supper, amongst other things, a dish of green beans, dressed with gravy, the best thing I ever eat. Above the town is a nunnery, of the order of St. Bernard, of persons of quality; they all eat alone in their chambers apart, keep a maid-servant and a lackey, and go out of the nunnery and walk about where they please. The situation very pleasant, overlooking the town, the valley, the orange-gardens, and the sea.

The journal is continued, and a description given of the country and cultivation by St. Maximin to Aix; thence to Vaucluse, the famous fountain just at the foot of an exceeding high rock, the basin is a stone's cast over; the water runs out amongst the rocks, and is the source of a great river in the valley below, and has all its water from hence. The basin about Easter is usually a yard or two higher, as one may see by the mark; about August it sinks about twenty-five cans below the height it was now; they say they cannot find any bottom.

Thence by Avignon; crossed the Rhone to the Carthusian Convent, where are sixty friars; their chapel well-adorned with plate, crosses, and relicks, very rich; amongst the rest, a chalice of gold, given by René, the last King of Naples of the Anjou race. I was going to take it in my hand, but the Carthusian withdrew it till he had put a cloth about the handle, and so gave it into my hand, nobody being suffered to touch these holy things but a Priest. In this chapel Pope Innocent VI. lies interred; he died 1362. In a little chapel in their convent stands a plain old chair, wherein he was infallible: I sat too little a while in it to get that privilege. In their devotions they use much prostration and kissing the ground;



they leave no more hair but one little circle growing round their heads, which is cut as short as one's whiskers. They have each a little habitation apart; their chapel, hall, and refectory very clean.

A league from Avignon, we passed the Durance, and then left the Pope's dominions; the rest of the way to Tarascon was on the side of a not unfruitful valley, but seemed not to be so well cultivated: moderate taxes, and a freedom from quarter, give the Pope's subjects, as it seems, more industry. Five companies of the regiment of Champagne, poor weak tattered fellows, . . . . return to

Montpellier, May 1st. The rents of lands in France fallen one half in these few years, by reason of the poverty of the people; merchants and handicraftsmen pay near half their gain. Noble land pays nothing in Languedoc in whose hands soever: in some other parts of France, lands in the hands of the nobles, of what sort soever, pay nothing: these noble lands, which are exempted from taxes, sell for one-half, and two-thirds more than others. The Protestants in France are thought to be one sixteenth part; in Languedoc 200,000.

For returns of money, Mr. Herbert found this train very good, and the men very civil. Mr. Bouverie, in St. Mary Axe, to Madam Herinx et son fils a Paris, they to Messrs. Covureur a Lyon; they to Sen Jacomo et Jo Morleves, at Livorne; they to their correspondent at Rome.

Rogation Procession, May 16th. Several orders of Friars, with a great company of little children dressed up, carrying pictures and banners: this is Rogation week for a blessing on the fruits of the earth, which, though little children cannot pray for, yet the prayers being made in their names, and offered up as from them by their parents and friends, of those innocents, they think will be more prevalent.

Description of silk-worms, of making soap, of bleaching wax, at great length, all omitted. Several extracts from statistical works on France, revenues of the Church of France, the same of Spain, all likewise omitted.

Locke, during his residence at Montpellier, employed his leisure



in reading books of travels, of the best of which he was a great admirer. At this time he read Bernier's Account of Hindostan, a work of the greatest merit, and still held in high estimation ; Della Valle's Travels in the East. Of other books, the most frequent extracts are from *Les Entretiens d'Ariste* ; a few specimens are here inserted.

“ Le bon sens est gay, vif, plein de feu, come celui qui paroist dans les essays de Montaigne et dans le Testament de la Hoquette.

“ Le Cavalier Marin n'est pas un bel esprit, car il ne s'est jamais vu une imagination plus fertile, ni moins réglée que la sienne ; s'il parle d'une rose, il en dit tout ce qu'on peut imaginer ; bien loin de rejeter ce qui se présente, il va chercher ce qui ne se presente pas ; il épuise toujours son sujet.

“ Le Tasse n'est pas toujours le plus raisonnable du monde ; à la verité on ne peut pas avoir plus de génie qu'il en a. Ses imaginations sont nobles et agréables, ses sentimens sont forts ou delicats selon ce que le sujet en demande ; ses passions sont bien touchées, et bien conduites, toutes ses comparaisons sont justes, toutes ses descriptions sont merveilleuses ; mais son génie l'emporte quelquefois trop loin ; il est trop fleuri en quelques endroits. Il badine dans les endroits assez serieux ; il ne garde pas aussi exactement que Virgile toutes les bienséances des mœurs.

“ C'est un des grands talens de Voiture de choisir ce qu'il y a de bon dans les livres, et le rendre meilleur par l'usage qu'il en fait. En imitant les autres, il s'est rendu inimitable ; les traits qu'il en emprunte quelquefois de Terence, et d'Horace, semblent faits pour son sujet, et sont bien plus beaux dans les endroits où il les met, que dans ceux d'où il les a pris.

“ Gracian est parmi les Espagnols modernes un de ces génies incomprehensibles : il a beaucoup d'élévation, de sublimité, de force, et même de bon sens : mais on ne sait le plus souvent ce qu'il veut dire ; et il ne sçait pas peut-être luy meme ; quelques-uns de ses ouvrages ne semblent être faits que pour n'être point entendus.

“ Ces diseurs eternels de beaux mots et de belles sentences : ces

copistes et ces singes de Seneque, ces Mancini, ces Malvezze et ces Loredans qui courent toujours après les brillans ; et j'ay bien de la peine de souffrir Seneque luy meme avec ses points, et ses antitheses perpetuelles."

In March 1677, Locke quitted Montpellier, where he had resided fourteen months, and travelled by the way of Toulouse and Bourdeaux towards Paris.

Extract, May 14, 1677. I rode out, and amongst other things, I saw the President Pontae's vineyard at Hautbrion ; it is a little rise of ground, open most to the west ; white sand mixed with a little gravel, scarce fit to bear any thing. The vines are trained, some to stakes, and some to laths ; not understanding Gascoin, I could not learn the cause of the difference from the workmen. This ground may be estimated to yield about twenty-five tun of wine ; however, the owner makes a shift to make every vintage fifty, which he sells for 105 écus per tun : it was sold some years since for sixty, but the English have raised the market on themselves. This, however, they say, that the wine in the very next vineyard to it, though seeming equal to me, is not so good. A tun of wine (124 hogsheads English, or perhaps four per cent. more) of the best quality at Bourdeaux, which is that of Medoc or Pontac, is worth, the first penny, eighty or 100 crowns : for this, the English may thank their own folly ; for whereas, some years since, the same wine was sold for fifty or sixty crowns per tun. The fashionable, sending over orders to have the best wine sent them at any rate, they have, by striving who should get it, brought it up to that price ; but very good wines may be had here for thirty-five, forty, and fifty crowns.

The journey is then continued by Poitiers and Tours.

26th. Tours stands upon a little rise, between the Loire and the Cher, with very good meadows on the south side ; it is a long town, well peopled, and thriving, which it owes to the great manufacture of silk.

They gave the King this year 45,000 livres, to be excused from winter quarters, which came to one tenth on the rent of their

houses. Wine and wood that enter the town pay tax to the King; besides, he sends to the several companies of the trades for so much money as he thinks fit; the officer of each corps de mestier taxes every one according to his worth; which, perhaps, amounts to one écu, or four livres, a man. But a bourgeois that lives in the town, if he have land in the country, and lets it, pays nothing; but the paisant who rents it, if he be worth any thing, pays for what he has, but he makes no defalcation of his rent. The manner of taxing in the country is this; the tax to be paid being laid upon the parish, the collectors for the year assess every one of the inhabitants, according as they judge him worth, but consider not the land in the parish belonging to any living out of it; this is that which so grinds the paisant in France. The collectors make their rates usually with great inequality; there lies an appeal for the over-taxed, but I find not that the remedy is made much use of.

Arrived at Paris, June 2nd. At the King's Library, the MS. Livy; Henry the Fourth's love letters in his own hand; the first Bible ever printed, 1462, upon vellum; but what seemed of all the most curious, was eighteen large folios of plants, drawn to the life, and six of birds, so exactly well done, that whoever knew any of the plants or birds before, would then know them at first sight; they are done by one Mr. Robert, who is still employed with the same work. M. Silvester is employed in drawing the King's twelve houses. The library keeper told us there were 14,000 MSS.

AUG. 7th. M. Colbert's son answered in philosophy at the Cordeliers, his brother moderating over him, where were present three Cardinals, Boullion, D'Estré, and Bontzi, the Premier President of the Parliament of Paris, a great number of bishops and clergy, and of the long robe, a state being erected for the Dauphin, to whom his thesis was dedicated. At Mr. Butterfield's, au roy d'Angleterre, I saw a levelling instrument, made to hang and turn horizontally; the sight was taken by a perspective-glass of four glasses, about a foot long; between the first and second glass was placed a single filament of silk stretched horizontally, by which the level was taken; there was



a heavy weight of lead hung down perpendicular about a foot long, to keep the telescope horizontal.

28th. The Jacobins in Paris fell into civil war one with another, and went together by the ears, and the battle grew so fierce between them, that the convent was not large enough to contain the combatants, but that several of them sallied out into the streets, and there cuffed it out stoutly. The occasion, they say, was, that the Prior endeavoured to reduce them into a stricter way of living than they had for some time past observed, for which, in the fray, he was soundly beaten. At the Observatory we saw the Moon in a twenty-two foot glass, and Jupiter, with his satellites, in the same. The most remote was on the east, and the other three on the west. We saw also Saturn and his ring, in a twelve-foot glass, and one of his satellites. Monsieur Cassini told me, that the declination of the needle at Paris is about two and a half degrees to the west.

Monsieur Bernier told me that the heathens of Hindostan pretend to great antiquity; that they have books and histories in their language; that their nodus in their numbers is ten as ours, and their circuit of days seven. That they are in number about ten to one to the Mahomedans. That Aurengezebe had lately engaged himself very inconveniently in wars with them upon account of religion, endeavouring to bring them by force to Mahometanism. And to discourage and bring over the Banians, or undo them, he had given exemption of customs to the trading Mahometans, by which means his revenue was much lessened; the Banians making use of the names of Mahometans to trade under, and so eluding his partiality.

4th. Saw the Palais Mazarin; a house very well furnished with pictures and statues, and cabinets in great plenty, and very fine. The roofs of the rooms extremely richly painted and gilded.

Garde meubles at the Louvre. We saw abundance of riches both in agate, gold, and silver vessels. Two frames of looking-glasses newly made, each weighed in silver 2400 marks, each mark so wrought, costing the King fifty-two livres; and beds exceedingly

rich in embroidery ; one of which was begun by Francis the First, which Cardinal Richelieu had finished, and presented the King, cost 200,000 écus.

At the Gobelins we saw the hangings ; very rich and good figures. In every piece, Louis le Grand was the hero, and the rest the marks of some conquest. In one, his making a league with the Swiss, where he lays his hand on the book to swear the articles, with his hat on, and the Swiss ambassador, in a submissive posture, with his hat off.

From Paris to Versailles four leagues. The chateau there a fine house, and a much finer garden, situated on a little rise of ground, having a morass on the east side of it, and though a place naturally without water, has more jet d'eaux and water-works than are elsewhere to be seen. Looking out from the King's apartments, one sees almost nothing but water for a whole league forward ; basins, jet d'eaux, a canal, in which is a man-of-war of thirty guns, two yachts, and several lesser vessels. The cascades, basins, &c. in the garden are so many, and so variously contrived, it would require much time to describe them. We had the honour to see them with the King, who walked about with Madame Montespan, from one to another, after having driven her and two other ladies in the coach with him about a good part of the garden. The coach had six horses. The rooms at the chateau are but little, and the stairs seem very little in proportion to the greatness of the persons who are to mount by them.

The great men's houses seem at first sight to stand irregularly, scattered at a distance, like cottages in a country village, amongst which the chateau, being higher and bigger than the rest, looks like the manor-house. But when one takes a view of them from the centre of the chateau, they appear to be ranged in good order, and they make a pleasing prospect, considering they are in a place where Nature seems to have conferred no favour.

We saw the house and lodgings ; the King and Queen's apartments are very fine, but little rooms, near square. In the new

lodgings they are somewhat bigger ; there are six of them, one within another, all vaulted roofs. The King's cupboard is without the room, on the stair-head in the passage, and standing in the hollow of a window, and so is the Dauphin's, on the other side the court on the stairs that go up there : both the King and he eat in the rooms next the stairs, and have no antichamber to them. The water that is employed in the garden, is raised into a reservoir over the grotto, out of a well, by ten horses that turn two spindles, and keep two pumps continually going ; and into the well it is raised out of an *étang* in the bottom by windmills : out of the works in the garden it falls into the canal, and so to the *étang* again. One hundred and twenty horses are employed night and day to supply the *étang*.

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Paris. At the Academy for Painting and Sculpture, one sees in the great room several pieces done by the chief masters of that academy.

They are about eighty in number ; out of them are chosen two every two months to teach those who are admitted. The King gives a prize by the hands of Monsieur Colbert, who is protector of this academy ; the prizes three or four medals of gold, worth four hundred livres. Those usually who get it are sent into Italy, and maintained there at the King's cost to perfect them.

24th. From Paris to Fontainbleau. One passes through the great forest for three or four miles, before one comes to the town, situated in a little open plain, encompassed with rocky woody hills.

At night we saw the opera of *Alceste*. The King and Queen sat on chairs with arms ; on the right hand of the King, sat Madame Montespan, and a little nearer the stage, on her right hand, Mademoiselle, the King of England's niece : on the left hand of the Queen sat Monsieur, and at his left hand, advancing towards the stage, Madame, and so forward towards the stage, other ladies of the Court, all on tabourets except the King and Queen.



We saw the house at Fontainebleau, and at night a ball, where the King and Queen, and the great persons of the Court danced, and the King himself took pains to clear the room to make place for the dancers. The Queen was very rich in jewels: the King and Queen, &c. were placed as at the Opera. The Duc d'Enghien sat behind.

At Fontainebleau the King and Court went a stag-hunting in the afternoon, and at night had an opera, at all which Madame appeared in a peruke, and upper part dressed like a man.

Feb. 1st, 1678. I saw the review of the gardes du corps, the musquetaires, and the grenadiers, in the plain de Duile, near St. Germain. The garde du corps, eleven or twelve squadrons, and might be 12 or 1,400 men, all lusty, well horsed, and well clad, all in blue, new, and alike, even to their hats and gloves; armed with pistols, carabines, and long back swords, with well guarded hilts. The musquetaires were four squadrons, about 400 men, clad all alike in red coats, but their cloaks blue. Their hats and gloves all the same even to the ribbons: they all wore great whiskers; I think all black, thinking perhaps to make themselves more terrible; their arms, pistols, carabine, and other things, fit for the manage of their granados. The King came to take a view of these troops between eleven and twelve o'clock, which he did so narrowly that he made them, squadron after squadron, march in file, man after man, just before him, and made the number in each squadron, as they passed, be counted, taking in the mean time a strict survey of their horses. The King, when he alighted out of his coach, had a hat laced about the edge with gold lace, and a white feather; after a while he had been on horseback, it beginning to rain, he changed it for a plain hat that had only a black ribbon about it; and was I think by the Audace a Cordebec. The Queen towards the latter end came in a coach and eight horses: the King led her along the head of all these squadrons, they being drawn up all in a line three deep, with little intervals between each squadron. At going off the field, which was at three in the afternoon, the grenadiers were made to exercise

before him, which was done very readily by wheeling every four men of the same rank together, by which means they without any disorder faced about, and were immediately in rank again. When this was done, the King went alone into his chariot, taking his best hat again, and returned. There were at this muster two Marshals of France, viz. Luxembourg and De Lorge, each of them Captain of a company of gardes du corps, at the head of which each of them took his place, and saluted the King as he returned, having passed along all these squadrons.

May 26th, 1678. At the Garde Meubles no increase, that I found, of silver vessels, but rather a diminution since I saw it last in October. Sumptuary laws, when the age inclines to luxury, do not restrain, but rather increase the evil, as one may observe in Tacitus, An. L. 3. Perhaps the better way to set bounds to people's expenses, and hinder them from spending beyond their income, would be to enact that no landed men should be obliged to pay any book-debt to tradesmen, whereby the interest of tradesmen would make them very cautious of trusting those who usually are the leaders of fashions, and thereby a great restraint would be brought on the usual excess; on the other hand, the credit of poor labouring people would be preserved as before for the supply of their necessities.

June 5th. Invalides, a great hospital nearly finished. Abbeys, priories, and monasteries, were formerly obliged to entertain, some two, some five lay-brothers, which were maimed soldiers; the maintenance came to be changed into a pension of 100 livres per ann. for each person; this, some few years ago, was augmented to 150 livres per ann., and presently afterwards taken from the present possessors, and applied to the invalids, beside which all the lands and revenues belonging to Hospitals for lepers, are appropriated to the Invalides.

Locke quitted Paris in July, returning to Montpellier by the way of Tours, Orleans, and by the road leading towards Rochelle.

Many of the towns they called bourgs; but considering how

poor and few the houses in most of them are, would in England scarce amount to villages. The houses generally were but one story; and though such low buildings cost not much to keep them up, yet like groveling bodies without souls, they also sink lower when they want inhabitants, of which sort of ruins we saw great numbers in all these bourgs, whereby one would guess that the people of France do not at present increase; but yet the country is all tilled and cultivated. The gentlemen's seats, of which we saw many, were most of them rather bearing marks of decay than of thriving and being well kept, except the great chateau de Richelieu, the most complete piece of building in France, where on the outside is exact symmetry, in the inside convenience, riches, and beauty, the richest gilding, the finest statues; the avenues on all sides exceeding handsome and magnificent; the situation low and unhealthy: the town is built with the same exactness, and though it has not the convenience of a town of great trade, yet the great privileges the Cardinal has got settled upon it, it being a free town, exempt from taile and salt, will always keep it full of people, and the houses dear in it.

August 10th. Vernet, the seat of the Abbé Defiat, son of the Marshal D'Efiat: he has several church benefices, which makes him a great revenue; they talk of 90,000 livres.

Great Abbey of Normoutier, where the new buildings, not yet finished, are very handsome; the gardens large, but the cellars much larger, being cut in under the sides of the hill into the rock: they had the last year there 1380 pieces of wine; we saw a great cave which will hold 200 tuns of wine.

At Niort they complained of the oppression and grievance suffered by the quartering of troops on the inhabitants; here a poor bookseller's wife, who by the largeness and furniture of her shop seemed not to have either much stock or trade, told me that there being last winter 1200 soldiers quartered in the town, two were appointed for their share, which, considering that they were to have three meals a day of flesh, besides a collation in the afternoon, all



which was better to give them, and a fifth meal too if they desired it, rather than displease them.; these two soldiers, for three months and a half they were there, cost them at least forty ecus.

Sept. 15th. Bourdeaux. They usually have in a year for the trade of this part of France 2,000 vessels; the present prohibitions in England trouble them: all wines low in price, except the best Pontac and Medoc.

Saw the chateau Trompette, a strong fort on the river side of four bastions; one of the best streets and four churches have been pulled down to set the citadel in a fair open space: a house was yet pulling down when we were there that had cost lately the building about 50,000 ecus. There are in the garrison 500 French soldiers and 200 Swiss; the French have two sous per diem, and bread, which is worth about one more; the Swiss have five sous per diem and bread.

We rode abroad a league or two into the country westward, which they call Grave, from whence comes the Grave wine; all vineyard. Talking with a poor peasant, he told me he had three children; that he usually got seven sous a day, finding himself, which was to maintain their family, five in number. His wife got three sous when she could get work, which was but seldom; other times the spinning, which was for their cloth, yielded more money: out of these seven sous they five were to be maintained, and house-rent paid, and their taille, and Sundays, and holidays provided for: for their house, which, God wot! was a poor one-room, one story, open to the tiles, without windows, and a little vineyard, which was as bad as nothing,—(for though they made out of it four or five tiers of wine, three tiers make two hogsheads, yet the labour and cost about the vineyard, making the wine, and cost of the casks to put it in, being cast up, the profit of it was very little,)—they paid twelve ecus for rent, and for taille four livres, for which, not long since, the collector had taken their frying pan and dishes, money not being ready: their ordinary food rye-bread and water; flesh seldom seasons their pots; they can make no distinction between flesh and

fasting days, but when their money reaches to a more costly meal, they buy the inwards of some beast in the market, and then they feast themselves. In Xantonge, and several other parts of France, the *paisants* are much more miserable: the *paisants* who live in Grave they count to be flourishing.

Taxes: one-eighth of the purchase to be paid of all church or corporation lands that have at any time been alienated; if they be decayed since the purchase, they pay one-eighth of the purchase; if meliorated, they pay according to the improved value. He that refuses hath a garrison of soldiers presently sent to his house.

Saw the Carthusian convent a quarter of a mile without the town; the altar adorned with pillars of the finest marble that I have seen; the marble of so excellent a kind, (interlaced with veins, as it were, of gold,) that the King hath been tempted to send for them away.

Sept. 26th. From Bourdeaux to Cadillac. Saw the great chateau built by the D. d'Espernon, built on three sides of a court, as all the great houses in France are, four stories high, and much more capacious than the chateau of Richelieu; a broad long terrace wall surrounds the building.

At Toulouse saw the *charteraux*, very large and fine; saw the reliques at St. Sernin, where they have the greatest store of them that I have met with; besides others, there are six apostles, and the head of the seventh, viz. two Jameses, Philip, Simon, Jude, Barnabas, and the head of Barthelmy. We were told of the wonders these and other reliques had done being carried in procession, but more especially the head of St. Edward, one of our Kings of England, which carried in procession, delivered the town from a plague some years since.

Locke arrived at Montpellier the middle of October, and after a short residence of less than a fortnight, set out before the end of the month on his return to Paris, by way of Lyons and Orleans, having probably been recalled by Shaftesbury, who was then at the head of the English Administration. The particulars of this journey

home are omitted. The mode of travelling at that time was generally on horseback, hired from one great town to another; the day's journey seven, eight, and ten leagues; the hire of horses for a journey three livres a-day for three horses, and three livres for their meat; to the guide that rode one, ten sous a day for his hire, and ten sous for his meat, and the same rate of seven livres a day for the return. Twenty sous, dinner; thirty sous, coucher.

He arrived at Paris the latter end of November, and remained there about five months.

At this time are many notes of and comparison between French and English measures; of length and capacity, of weight and fineness, of the respective monies of the two countries, and of Holland, ascertained by experiment and by information furnished by M. Briot, M. Toynard, and Romer.

Dec. 20th. In the library of the Abbé of St. Germain's, M. Covell and I saw two very old manuscripts of the New Testament, the newest of which was, as appeared by the date of it, at least 800 years old, in each of which 1 John c. v. v. 7. was quite wanting, and the end of the eighth verse ran thus, "tres unum sunt;" in an other old copy the seventh verse was, but with interlining; in another much more modern copy, v. 7. was also, but differently from the old copy; and in two other old manuscripts, also, v. 7. was quite out, but as I remember in all of them the end of the eighth verse was "tres unum sunt."

The story of the nuns of Lodun possessed, was nothing but a contrivance of Cardinal Richelieu to destroy Graudier, a man he suspected to have wrote a book against him, who was condemned for witchcraft in the case, and burnt for it. The scene was managed by the capuchins, and the nuns played their tricks well, but all was a cheat.

23rd. At the King's levee, which I saw this morning at St. Germain's, there is nothing so remarkable as his great devotion, which is very exemplary; for as soon as ever he is dressed, he goes to his bed-side, where he kneels down to his prayers, several priests



kneeling by him, in which posture he continues for a pretty while, not being disturbed by the noise and buzz of the rest of the chamber, which is full of people standing and talking one to another.

The Marquis de Bordage, who married M. Turenne's niece, being at Rome about the year 66 or 67, being at a mass where the Pope was present, and not above a yard or two from him, a very considerable Cardinal, who was just by him, asked him just after the elevation : “che dice vostra Signioria di tutta questa fanfantaria.”

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Amongst other things, M. Covell told me how the patriarchs of Constantinople are made at present by the Grand Seignior : how they buy out one another ; and how the non-conformist Protestants were induced by him to take the sacrament kneeling.

1679—JANUARY 4th. This day was the review of the infantry of the Maison du Roi. There were thirty companies, if one may reckon by their colours of French, and ten of Swiss, all new habited. The officers of the French, gold embroidery on blue ; the Swiss, gold embroidery on red, and much the richer. The French common soldiers all in new clothes : the coat and breeches of cloth almost white ; red vests laced with counterfeit silver lace ; as much as was seen, at least, was red cloth, though if one looked farther, one should have found it grafted to linen ; shoulder-belts, and bandeliers of buff leather, laced at their vests ; red stockings, a new hat laced, adorned with a great white woollen feather—some were red ; a new pair of white gloves with woollen fringe, and a new sword, copper gilt hilt ; all which, I am told, with a coat of grey stuff to wear over it, cost forty-four livres, which is abated out of their pay ; of which, all defalcations made, there remains for their maintenance five sous per diem. The soldiers, as I overtook them coming home to Paris, had most of them oiled hat cases, a part I suppose of their furniture, and coarse linen buskins, after the fashion of their country, to save their red stockings. The Swiss soldiers were habited in red coats and blue breeches cut after their fashion, with their points at their knees, and had no feathers. The pike-men of both

had back and breast-plates ; but the Swiss also had head-pieces, which the French had not. For the Swiss, the King pays each captain for himself, and all the men in his company, eighteen livres per mensem ; the captain's profit lies in this, that he agrees with his officers as he can, and so with the soldiers, who have some ten, some fourteen livres per mensem as they can agree.

The King passed at the head of the line as they stood drawn up ; the officers at the head of their companies and regiments in armour, with pikes in their hands, saluting him with their pikes, then with their hats. He very courteously put off his hat to them again ; so he did, when taking his stand, they marched before him. He passed twice along the whole front forwards and backwards ; first by himself, the Dauphin, &c. accompanying him ; and then with the Queen, he riding by her coach side.

The sergeants complaining that their pay would not reach to make them so fine as was required, *i. e.* scarlet coats with true gold galloon ; to make them amends for it, they were allowed to take more on their quarters. The French for excusing from quarters make them pay twenty-four, the Swiss but eighteen livres.

At Paris, the bills of mortality usually amount to 19 or 20,000 ; and they count in the town about 500,000 souls, 50,000 more than at London, where the bills are less. Quere, whether the Quakers, Anabaptists, and Jews, that die in London, are reckoned in the bills of mortality.

Exchange on London fifty-four pence five-eighths d'Angleterre, for one écu of France ; so with commission, &c. I received 1,306 livres, two sous, for 100*l.* sterling.

M. Toinard showed me a new system of our tourbillion, wherein the centre of the sun described a circle of the tourbillion, in which it made its periodical circuit, and Mercury moved about the sun as the moon does about the earth.

Pomey and Chauson were burnt at Paris about the year 64, for keeping a bawdy-house of Catemites. M. Toinard.

FEBRUARY 13th. I saw the library of M. de Thou, a great col-

lection of choice, well-bound books, which are now to be sold; amongst others, a Greek manuscript, written by one Angelot, by which Stephens' Greek characters were first made. There was also a picture of a procession in the time of the League, wherein the monks of the several orders are represented armed, as indeed they were. Here also I had the honour to see the Prince of Conti, now in his seventeenth year, a very comely young gentleman; but the beauty of his mind far excels that of his body, being for his age very learned. He speaks Italian and German as a native, understands Latin well, Spanish indifferently, and is, as I am told, going to learn English: a great lover of justice and honour, very civil and obliging to all, and desires the acquaintance of persons of merit of any kind; and though I can pretend to none that might recommend me to one of the first princes of the blood of France, yet he did me the honour to ask me several questions then, and to repeat his commands to me to wait upon him at his house.

Friday. The observation of Lent at Paris is come almost to nothing. Meat is openly to be had in the shambles, and a dispensation commonly to be had from the curate without difficulty. People of sense laugh at it, and in Italy itself, for twenty sous, a dispensation is certainly to be had. The best edition of the French Bible is that in folio, in two vols. Elzevir, but the notes are not very good. The best notes are those of Diodati, and his Italian Bible is very good, Mr. Justel.

They tell here, that the Bishop of Bellay having writ against the Capuchins, and they against him, Cardinal Richelieu undertook their reconciliation, and they both promised peace; but the Capuchins writing again under another name, the Bishop replied; so that the Cardinal, seeing him some time after, told him, that had he held his peace he would have canonized him. "That would do well," replied the Bishop, "for then we should each of us have what we desire; *i. e.* one should be Pope, and the other a saint." Cardinal Richelieu having given him the Prince of Balzac and the Minister Silhon to read, (which he had caused to be writ, one as a character



of the King, and the other of himself,) demanded one day, before the King, his opinion of them ; to which the Bishop replied, “ Le Prince n’est pas grand chose, et le Ministre ne vaut rien !”

A devout lady being sick, and besieged by the Carmes, made her will, and gave them all : the Bishop of Bellay coming to see her after it was done, asked whether she had made her will ; she answered yes, and told him how : he convinced her it was not well, and she desiring to alter it, found a difficulty how to do it, being so beset by the friars. The Bishop bid her not trouble herself for it, but presently took order that two notaries, habited as physicians, should come to her, who being by her bed-side, the Bishop told the company it was convenient all should withdraw ; and so the former will was revoked, and a new one made and put into the Bishop’s hands. The lady dies, the Carmes produce their will, and for some time the Bishop lets them enjoy the pleasure of their inheritance ; but at last, taking out the other will, he says to them, “ Mes frères, you are the sons of Eliah, children of the Old Testament, and have no share in the New.” This is that Bishop of Bellay who has writ so much against monks and monkery.

Il y a à Paris vingt-quatre belles maisons qu’on peut voir.

Luxembourg

L’Hotel de M. Lambert

L’Hotel de Guise

—— de Chaumont

—— de Soissons

—— de Lesdiguiers

—— de la Basinierre

—— de Conti

—— de la Ferté

—— de Lamoignon

—— de Grammont

—— de Jars

—— de M. Colbert

—— de Turenne

—— de la Vrillierre

—— de M. Amelot Bisicul

—— de Mazarin

—— M. de Boisfranc

—— de Lyonne

—— de Vendome

—— Bretonvilliers

—— d’Espernon

—— Justin

—— de Longueville.

The Memoires de Sully are full of falsities and self-flattery, so concluded by the company chez Mr. Justel ; the same which Mr.

Falayseau had before told me ; those of the Duc de Guise, a romance ; but those of Modena, concerning Naples, good.

I saw the Père Cherubin, the Capuchin so famous for optics, at least the practical part in telescopes, at his convent in the Rue St. Honoré.

The Capuchins are the strictest and severest order in France, so that to mortify those of their order, they command them the most unreasonable things, irrational and ridiculous : as to plant cabbage-plants the roots upwards, and then reprehend them, the planters, because they do not grow. As soon as they find any one to have any inclinations any way, as Père Cherubin in optics and telescopes, to take from him all that he has done, or may be useful to him in that science, and employ him in something quite contrary ; but he has now a particular lock and key to his cell, which the guardian's key opens not.

This severity makes them not compassionate one to another, whatever they would be to others.

Within this year past, were bills set up about Paris, with a privilege for a receipt to kill lice, whereof the Duke of Bouillon had the monopoly, and the bills were in his name.

“ Par permission et privilège du Roy, accordé à perpétuité à Monsieur le Duc de Bouillon, Grand Chambellan de France, par lettres patentes du 17 Sept. 1677, vérifiés en Parlement par arrêt du 13 Dec. au dit an, le publique sera averti que l'on vend à Paris un petit sachet de la grandeur d'une pièce de quinze sols, pour garantir toute sorte de personnes de la vermine, et en retirer ceux qui en sont incommodés sans mercure.

“ Il est fait defense à toutes personnes de le faire, ni contrefaire, à peine de trois mille livres d'amende.” Extrait de l'affiche.

At the seminary of St. Sulpice, over the door opposite to the gate, is the Virgin, a child crowning her, and under her feet this inscription : *Interveni pro clero.*

The Protestants within these twenty years have had above

three hundred churches demolished, and within these two months fifteen more condemned.

During his residence at Paris, Locke made acquaintance with Mr. Justel, (whose house was then the resort of the literati of France,) and with him he continued to correspond long after his return to England. He also formed an acquaintance with Mr. Guenelon, the celebrated physician of Amsterdam, whose friendship was most useful some years afterwards, during his retreat in Holland. He became also intimately acquainted with Monsieur Toinard, the author of *Harmonia Evangeliorum*.

At the beginning of May, Locke left Paris, and arrived in the Thames on the 8th; he resided for some time at Thanet-House in Aldersgate-street, Shaftesbury being then at the head of the English administration.

Before proceeding farther, it will be proper here to insert the notes and dissertations on different subjects scattered at intervals through the Journal.

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#### KNOWLEDGE, ITS EXTENT AND MEASURE.

*Quod volumus facile credimus.*

Feb. 8, 1677.—QUESTION.—How far, and by what means, the will works upon the understanding and assent?

Our minds are not made as large as truth, nor suited to the whole extent of things; amongst those that come within its reach, it meets with a great many too big for its grasp, and there are not a few that it is fair to give up as incomprehensible. It finds itself lost in the vast extent of space, and the least particle of matter puzzles it with an inconceivable divisibility; and those who, out of a great care not to admit unintelligible things, deny or question an eternal omniscient spirit, run themselves into a greater difficulty by making an eternal and intelligent matter. Nay, our minds, whilst they think and (\*\*\*\*\*) our bodies find it



past their capacity to conceive how they do the one or the other. This state of our minds, however remote from the perfection whereof we ourselves have an idea, ought not, however, to discourage our endeavours in the search of truth, or make us think we are incapable of knowing any thing, because we cannot understand all things. We shall find that we are sent out into the world furnished with those faculties that are fit to obtain knowledge, and knowledge sufficient, if we will but confine it within those purposes, and direct it to those ends, which the constitution of our nature, and the circumstance of our being, point out to us. If we consider ourselves in the condition we are in the world, we cannot but observe that we are in an estate, the necessities whereof call for a constant supply of meat, drink, clothing, and defence from the weather ; and our conveniences demand yet a great deal more. To provide these things, Nature furnishes us only with the material, for the most part rough, and unfitted to our use ; it requires labour, art, and thought, to suit them to our occasions ; and if the knowledge of man had not found out ways to shorten the labour, and improve several things which seem not, at first sight, to be of any use to us, we should spend all our time to make a scanty provision for a poor and miserable life : a sufficient instance, whereof, we have in the inhabitants of that large and fertile part of the world, the West Indies, who lived a poor uncomfortable life, scarce able to subsist ; and that, perhaps, only for want of knowing the use of that store out of which the inhabitants of the Old World had the skill to draw iron, and thereof make themselves utensils necessary for the carrying on and improvement of all other arts ; no one of which can subsist well, if at all, without that one metal. Here, then, is a large field for knowledge, proper for the use and advantage of men in this world ; *viz.*, to find out new inventions of dispatch to shorten or ease our labour, or applying sagaciously together several agents and materials, to procure new and beneficial productions fit for our use, whereby our stock of riches (*i. e.* things useful for the conveniences of our life,) may be increased, or better

preserved: and for such discoveries as these the mind of man is well fitted; though, perhaps, the essence of things, their first original, their secret way of working, and the whole extent of corporeal beings, be as far beyond our capacity as it is beside our use; and we have no reason to complain that we do not know the nature of the sun or stars, that the consideration of light itself leaves us in the dark, and a thousand other speculations in Nature, since, if we knew them, they would be of no solid advantage to us, nor help to make our lives the happier, they being but the useless employment of idle or over-curious brains, which amuse themselves about things out of which they can by no means draw any real benefit. So that, if we will consider man as in the world, and that his mind and faculties were given him for any use, we must necessarily conclude it must be to procure him the happiness which this world is capable of; which certainly is nothing else but plenty of all sorts of those things which can with most ease, pleasure, and variety, preserve him longest in it: so that, had mankind no concernment but in the world, no apprehensions of any being after this life, they need trouble their heads with nothing but the history of nature, and an enquiry into the qualities of the things in the mansion of the universe which hath fallen to their lot, and being well-skilled in the knowledge of material causes and effect of things in their power, directing their thoughts to the improvement of such arts and inventions, engines, and utensils, as might best contribute to their continuation in it with conveniency and delight, they might well spare themselves the trouble of looking any farther; they need not perplex themselves about the original frame or constitution of the universe, drawing the great machine into systems of their own contrivance, and building hypotheses, obscure, perplexed, and of no other use but to raise dispute and continual wrangling: For what need have we to complain of our ignorance in the more general and foreign parts of nature, when all our business lies at home? Why should we bemoan our want of knowledge in the particular apartments of the universe, when our portion here only lies in the little

spot of earth where we and all our concernments are shut up? Why should we think ourselves hardly dealt with, that we are not furnished with compass nor plummet to sail and fathom that restless, unnavigable ocean, of the universal matter, motion, and space? Since there be shores to bound our voyage and travels, there are at least no commodities to be brought from thence serviceable to our use, nor that will better our condition; and we need not be displeased that we have not knowledge enough to discover whether we have any neighbours or no in those large bulks of matter we see floating in the abyss, or of what kind they are, since we can never have any communication with them that might turn to our advantage. So that, considering man barely as an animal of three or four-score years duration, and then to end, his condition and state requires no other knowledge than what may furnish him with those things which may help him to pass out to the end of that time with ease, safety, and delight, which is all the happiness he is capable of: and for the attainment of a correspondent measure mankind is sufficiently provided. He has faculties and organs well adapted for the discovery, if he thinks fit to employ and use them. Another use of his knowledge is to live in peace with his fellow-men, and this also he is capable of. Besides a plenty of the good things of this world, with life, health, and peace to enjoy them, we can think of no other concernment mankind hath that leads him not out of it, and places him not beyond the confines of this earth; and it seems probable that there should be some better state somewhere else to which man might arise, since, when he hath all that this world can afford, he is still unsatisfied, uneasy, and far from happiness. It is certain, and that all men must consent to, that there is a possibility of another state when this scene is over; and that the happiness and misery of that depends on the ordering of ourselves in our actions in this time of our probation here. The acknowledgment of a God will easily lead any one to this, and he hath left so many footsteps of himself, so many proofs of his being in every creature, as are sufficient to convince any who will but



make use of their faculties that way,—and I dare say nobody escapes this conviction for want of sight ; but if any be so blind, it is only because they will not open their eyes and see ; and those only doubt of a Supreme Ruler and an universal law, who would willingly be under no law, accountable to no judge ; those only question another life hereafter, who intend to lead such a one here as they fear to have examined, and would be loath to answer for when it is over. This opinion I shall always be of, till I see that those who would cast off all thoughts of God, heaven, and hell, lead such lives as would become rational creatures, or observe that one unquestionable moral rule, do as you would be done to. It being then possible, and at least probable, that there is another life, wherein we shall give an account of our past actions in this to the great God of heaven and earth ; here comes in another, and that the main concernment of mankind, to know what those actions are that he is to do, what those are he is to avoid, what the law is, he is to live by here, and shall be judged by hereafter ; and in the past too he is not left so in the dark, but that he is furnished with principles of knowledge, and faculties able to discover light enough to guide him ; his understanding seldom fails him in this part, unless where his will would have it so. If he take a wrong course, it is most commonly because he goes wilfully out of the way, or, at least, chooses to be bewildered ; and there are few, if any, who dreadfully mistake that are willing to be in the right ; and I think one may safely say, that amidst the great ignorance which is so justly complained of amongst mankind, where any one endeavoured to know his duty sincerely, with a design to do it, scarce ever any one miscarried for want of knowledge. The business of men being to be happy in this world, by the enjoyment of the things of nature subservient to life, health, ease, and pleasure, and by the comfortable hopes of another life when this is ended ; and in the other world, by an accumulation of higher degrees of bliss in an everlasting security, we need no other knowledge for the attainment of those ends but of the history and observation of the effect and operation of natural bodies within our power, and of our

duty in the management of our own actions, as far as they depend on our will, i. e. as far also as they are in our power. One of those is the proper enjoyment of our bodies, and the highest perfection of that, and the other of our souls; and to attain both these we are fitted with faculties both of body and soul. Whilst then we have ability to improve our knowledge in experimental natural philosophy, whilst we want not principles whereon to establish moral rules, nor light (if we please to make use of it) to distinguish good from bad actions, we have no reason to complain if we meet with difficulties in other things which put our reasons to a nonplus, confound our understandings, and leave us perfectly in the dark under the sense of our own weakness: for those relating not to our happiness any way are no part of our business, and therefore it is not to be wondered if we have not abilities given us to deal with things that are not to our purpose, nor conformable to our state or end. God having made the great machine of the universe suitable to his infinite power and wisdom, why should we think so proudly of ourselves whom he hath put into a small canton, and perhaps the most inconsiderable part of it, that he hath made us the surveyors of it, and that it is not as it should be unless we can thoroughly comprehend it in all the parts of it? It is agreeable to his goodness, and to our condition, that we should be able to apply them to our use, to understand so far some parts of that we have to do with, as to be able to make them subservient to the convenience of our life, as proper to fill our hearts with praise of his bounty. But it is also agreeable to his greatness, that it should exceed our capacity, and the highest flight of our imagination, the better to fill us with admiration of his power and wisdom;—besides its serving to other ends, and being suited probably to the use of other more intelligent creatures which we know not of. If it be not reasonable to expect that we should be able to penetrate into all the depths of nature, and understand the whole constitution of the universe, it is yet a higher insolence to doubt of the existence of a God because we cannot comprehend him—to think there is not an infinite Being because we are not so. If all things

must stand or fall by the measure of our understandings, and that denied to be, wherein we find inextricable difficulties, there will very little remain in the world, and we shall scarce leave ourselves so much as understandings, souls, or bodies. It will become us better to consider well our own weakness and exigencies, what we are made for, and what we are capable of, and to apply the powers of our bodies and faculties of our souls, which are well suited to our condition, in the search of that natural and moral knowledge, which, as it is not beyond our strength, so is not beside our purpose, but may be attained by moderate industry, and improved to our infinite advantage.

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[This excellent article was begun in March, continued at intervals, and finished in May, apparently during a journey.]

#### STUDY.

1677, MARCH 6th. The end of study is knowledge, and the end of knowledge practice or communication. This true delight is commonly joined with all improvements of knowledge; but when we study only for that end, it is to be considered rather as diversion than business, and so is to be reckoned among our recreations.

The extent of knowledge or things knowable is so vast, our duration here so short, and the entrance by which the knowledge of things gets into our understanding so narrow, that the time of our whole life would be found too short without the necessary allowances for childhood and old age, (which are not capable of much improvement,) for the refreshment of our bodies and unavoidable avocations, and in most conditions for the ordinary employment of their callings, which if they neglect, they cannot eat nor live. I say that the whole time of our life, without these necessary defalcations, is not enough to acquaint us with all those things, I will not say which we are capable of knowing, but which it would not be only convenient but very advantageous to know. He that will consider how



many doubts and difficulties have remained in the minds of the most knowing men after long and studious inquiry ; how much in those several provinces of knowledge they have surveyed, they have left undiscovered ; how many other provinces of the “mundus intelligibilis,” as I may call it, they never once travelled on, will easily consent to the disproportionateness of our time and strength to this greatness of business, of knowledge taken in its full latitude, and which, if it be not our main business here, yet it is so necessary to it, and so interwoven with it, that we can make little further progress in doing, than we do in knowing,—at least to little purpose ;—acting without understanding being usually at best but lost labour.

It therefore much behoves us to improve the best we can our time and talent in this respect, and since we have a long journey to go, and the days are but short, to take the straightest and most direct road we can. To this purpose, it may not perhaps be amiss to decline some things that are likely to bewilder us, or at least lie out of our way,—First, as all that maze of words and phrases which have been invented and employed only to instruct and amuse people in the art of disputing, and will be found perhaps, when looked into, to have little or no meaning ; and with this kind of stuff the logics, physics, ethics, metaphysics, and divinity of the schools are thought by some to be too much filled. This I am sure, that where we leave distinctions without finding a difference in things ; where we make variety of phrases, or think we furnish ourselves with arguments without a progress in the real knowledge of things, we only fill our heads with empty sounds, which however thought to belong to learning and knowledge, will no more improve our understandings and strengthen our reason, than the noise of a jack will fill our bellies or strengthen our bodies : and the art to fence with those which are called subtleties, is of no more use than it would be to be dexterous in tying and untying knots in cobwebs. Words are of no value nor use, but as they are the signs of things ; when they stand for nothing they are less than cyphers, for instead of augmenting the

value of those they are joined with, they lessen it, and make it nothing; and where they have not a clear distinct signification, they are like unusual or ill-made figures that confound our meaning.

2nd. An aim and desire to know what hath been other men's opinions. Truth needs no recommendation, and error is not mended by it; and in our inquiry after knowledge, it as little concerns us what other men have thought, as it does one who is to go from Oxford to London, to know what scholars walk quietly on foot, inquiring the way and surveying the country as they went, who rode post after their guide without minding the way he went, who were carried along muffled up in a coach with their company, or where one doctor lost or went out of his way, or where another stuck in the mire. If a traveller gets a knowledge of the right way, it is no matter whether he knows the infinite windings, byeways, and turnings where others have been misled; the knowledge of the right secures him from the wrong, and that is his great business: and so methinks it is in our pilgrimage through this world; men's fancies have been infinite even of the learned, and the history of them endless: and some not knowing whither they would go, have kept going, though they have only moved; others have followed only their own imaginations, though they meant right, which is an errant, which with the wisest leads us through strange mazes. Interest has blinded some and prejudiced others, who have yet marched confidently on; and however out of the way, they have thought themselves most in the right. I do not say this to undervalue the light we receive from others, or to think there are not those who assist us mightily in our endeavours after knowledge; perhaps without books we should be as ignorant as the Indians, whose minds are as ill clad as their bodies; but I think it is an idle and useless thing to make it one's business to study what have been other men's sentiments in things where reason is only to be judge, on purpose to be furnished with them, and to be able to cite them on all occasions. However it be esteemed a great part of learning, yet to a man that considers how little time he has, and how much work to do,

how many things he is to learn, how many doubts to clear in religion, how many rules to establish to himself in morality, how much pains to be taken with himself to master his unruly desires and passions, how to provide himself against a thousand cases and accidents that will happen, and an infinite deal more both in his general and particular calling; I say to a man that considers this well, it will not seem much his business to acquaint himself designedly with the various conceits of men that are to be found in books even upon subjects of moment. I deny not but the knowing of these opinions in all their variety, contradiction, and extravagancy, may serve to instruct us in the vanity and ignorance of mankind, and both to humble and caution us upon that consideration; but this seems not reason enough to me to engage purposely in this study, and in our inquiries after more material points, we shall meet with enough of this medly to acquaint us with the weakness of man's understanding.

3rd. Purity of language, a polished style, or exact criticism in foreign languages—thus I think Greek and Latin may be called, as well as French and Italian,—and to spend much time in these may perhaps serve to set one off in the world, and give one the reputation of a scholar. But if that be all, methinks it is labouring for an outside; it is at best but a handsome dress of truth or falsehood that one busies one's-self about, and makes most of those who lay out their time this way rather as fashionable gentlemen, than as wise or useful men.

There are so many advantages of speaking one's own language well, and being a master in it, that let a man's calling be what it will, it cannot but be worth our taking some pains in it; but it is by no means to have the first place in our studies: but he that makes good language subservient to a good life and an instrument of virtue, is doubly enabled to do good to others.

When I speak against the laying out our time and study on criticisms, I mean such as may serve to make us great masters in Pindar and Persius, Herodotus and Tacitus; and I must always be



understood to except all study of languages and critical learning, that may aid us in understanding the Scriptures ; for they being an eternal foundation of truth as immediately coming from the fountain of truth, whatever doth help us to understand their true sense, doth well deserve our pains and study.

4th. Antiquity and history, as far as they are designed only to furnish us with story and talk. For the stories of Alexander and Cæsar, no farther than they instruct us in the art of living well, and furnish us with observations of wisdom and prudence, are not one jot to be preferred to the history of Robin Hood, or the Seven Wise Masters. I do not deny but history is very useful, and very instructive of human life ; but if it be studied only for the reputation of being an historian, it is a very empty thing ; and he that can tell all the particulars of Herodotus and Plutarch, Curtius and Livy, without making any other use of them, may be an ignorant man with a good memory, and with all his pains hath only filled his head with Christmas tales. And which is worse, the greatest part of history being made up of wars and conquests, and their style, especially the Romans, speaking of valour as the chief if not the only virtue, we are in danger to be misled by the general current and business of history, and looking on Alexander and Cæsar, and such like heroes, as the highest instances of human greatness, because they each of them caused the death of several 100,000 men, and the ruin of a much greater number, overrun a great part of the earth, and killed the inhabitants to possess themselves of their countries—we are apt to make butchery and rapine the chief marks and very essence of human greatness. And if civil history be a great dealer of it, and to many readers thus useless, curious and difficult inquiries in antiquity are much more so ; and the exact dimensions of the Colossus, or figure of the Capitol, the ceremonies of the Greek and Roman marriages, or who it was that first coined money ; these, I confess, set a man well off in the world, especially amongst the learned, but set him very little on in his way.

5th. Nice questions and remote useless speculations, as where

the earthly Paradise was—or what fruit it was that was forbidden—where Lazarus's soul was whilst his body lay dead—and what kind of bodies we shall have at the Resurrection? &c. &c. These things well-regulated, will cut off at once a great deal of business from one who is setting out into a course of study; not that all these are to be counted utterly useless, and lost time cast away on them. The four last may be each of them the full and laudable employment of several persons who may with great advantage make languages, history, or antiquity, their study. For as for words without meaning, which is the first head I mentioned, I cannot imagine them any way worth hearing or reading, much less studying; but there is such an harmony in all sorts of truth and knowledge, they do all support and give light so to one another, that one cannot deny, but languages and criticisms, history and antiquity, strange opinions and odd speculations, serve often to clear and confirm very material and useful doctrines. My meaning therefore is, not that they are not to be looked into by a studious man at any time; all that I contend is, that they are not to be made our chief aim, nor first business, and that they are always to be handled with some caution: for since having but a little time, we have need of much care in the husbanding of it. These parts of knowledge ought not to have either the first or greatest part of our studies, and we have the more need of this caution, because they are much in vogue amongst men of letters, and carry with them a great exterior of learning, and so are a glittering temptation in a studious man's way, and such as is very likely to mislead him.

But if it were fit for me to marshal the parts of knowledge, and allot to any one its place and precedence, thereby to direct one's studies, I should think it were natural to set them in this order.

1. Heaven being our great business and interest, the knowledge which may direct us thither is certainly so too, so that this is without peradventure the study that ought to take the first and chiefest place in our thoughts; but wherein it consists, its parts, method, and application, will deserve a chapter by itself.

2. The next thing to happiness in the other world, is a quiet prosperous passage through this, which requires a discreet conduct and management of ourselves in the several occurrences of our lives. The study of prudence then seems to me to deserve the second place in our thoughts and studies. A man may be, perhaps, a good man, (which lives in truth and sincerity of heart towards God,) with a small portion of prudence, but he will never be very happy in himself, nor useful to others without: these two are every man's business.

3. If those who are left by their predecessors with a plentiful fortune are excused from having a particular calling, in order to their subsistence in this life, it is yet certain that, by the law of God, they are under an obligation of doing something; which, having been judiciously treated by an able pen, I shall not meddle with, but pass to those who have made letters their business; and in these I think it is incumbent to make the proper business of their calling the third place in their study.

This order being laid, it will be easy for every one to determine with himself what tongues and histories are to be studied by him, and how far in subserviency to his general or particular calling.

Our happiness being thus parcelled out, and being in every part of it very large, it is certain we should set ourselves on work without ceasing, did not both the parts we are made up of bid us hold. Our bodies and our minds are neither of them capable of continual study, and if we take not a just measure of our strength, in endeavouring to do a great deal, we shall do nothing at all.

The knowledge we acquire in this world I am apt to think extends not beyond the limits of this life. The beatific vision of the other life needs not the help of this dim twilight; but be that as it will, I am sure the principal end why we are to get knowledge here, is to make use of it for the benefit of ourselves and others in this world; but if by gaining it we destroy our health, we labour for a thing that will be useless in our hands; and if by harassing our bodies (though with a design to render ourselves more useful) we



deprive ourselves of the abilities and opportunities of doing that good we might have done with a meaner talent, which God thought sufficient for us by having denied us the strength to improve it to that pitch which men of stronger constitutions can attain to, we rob God of so much service, and our neighbour of all that help, which, in a state of health, with moderate knowledge, we might have been able to perform. He that sinks his vessel by overloading it, though it be with gold and silver and precious stones, will give his owner but an ill account of his voyage.

It being past doubt then, that allowance is to be made for the temper and strength of our bodies, and that our health is to regulate the measure of our studies, the great secret is to find out the proportion ; the difficulty whereof lies in this, that it must not only be varied according to the constitution and strength of every individual man, but it must also change with the temper, vigour, and circumstances and health of every particular man, in the different varieties of health, or indisposition of body, which every thing our bodies have any commerce with is able to alter : so that it is as hard to say how many hours a day a man shall study constantly, as to say how much meat he shall eat every day, wherein his own prudence, governed by the present circumstances, can only judge. . . . . The regular proceeding of our watch not being the fit measure of time, but the secret motions of a much more curious engine, our bodies being to limit out the portion of time in this occasion ; however, it may be so contrived that all the time may not be lost, for the conversation of an ingenious friend upon what one hath read in the morning, or any other profitable subject, may perhaps let into the mind as much improvement of knowledge, though with less prejudice to the health, as settled solemn poring over books, which we generally call study ; which, though no necessary part, yet I am sure is not the only, and perhaps not the best way, of improving the understanding.

2. Great care is to be taken that our studies encroach not upon our sleep : this I am sure, sleep is the great balsam of life and restorative of nature, and studious sedentary men have more need of

it than the active and laborious, because those men's business and their bodily labours, though they waste their spirits, help transpiration, and carry away their excrements, which are the foundation of diseases ; whereas the studious sedentary man, employing his spirits within, equally or more wastes them than the other, but without the benefit of transpiration, allowing the matter of disease insensibly to accumulate. We are to lay by our books and meditations when we find either our heads or stomachs indisposed upon any occasion ; study at such time doing great harm to the body, and very little good to the mind.

1st. As the body, so the mind also, gives laws to our studies ; I mean to the duration and continuance of them ; let it be never so capacious, never so active, it is not capable of constant labour nor total rest. The labour of the mind is study, or intention of thought, and when we find it is weary, either in pursuing other men's thoughts ; as in reading, or tumbling or tossing its own as in meditation, it is time to give off and let it recover itself. Sometimes meditation gives a refreshment to the weariness of reading, and *vice versâ* ; sometimes the change of ground, *i. e.* going from one subject or science to another, rouses the mind, and fills it with fresh vigour ; oftentimes discourse enlivens it when it flags, and puts an end to the weariness without stopping it one jot, but rather forwarding it in its journey ; and sometimes it is so tired, that nothing but a perfect relaxation will serve the turn. All these are to be made use of according as every one finds most successful in himself to the best husbandry of his time and thought.

2nd. The mind has sympathies and antipathies as well as the body ; it has a natural preference often of one study before another. It would be well if one had a perfect command of them, and sometimes one is to try for the mastery, to bring the mind into order and a pliant obedience ; but generally it is better to follow the bent and tendency of the mind itself, so long as it keeps within the bounds of our proper business, wherein there is generally latitude

enough. By this means, we shall go not only a great deal faster, and hold out a great deal longer, but the discovery we shall make will be a great deal clearer, and make deeper impressions in our minds. The inclination of the mind is as the palate to the stomach; that seldom digests well in the stomach, or adds much strength to the body that nauseates the palate, and is not recommended by it.

There is a kind of restiveness in almost every one's mind; sometimes without perceiving the cause, it will boggle and stand till, and one cannot get it a step forward; and at another time it will press forward, and there is no holding it in. It is always good to take it when it is willing, and keep on whilst it goes at ease, though it be to the breach of some of the other rules concerning the body. But one must take care of trespassing on that side too often, for one that takes pleasure in study, flatters himself that a little now, and a little to-morrow, does no harm, that he feels no ill effects of an hour's sitting up,—insensibly undermines his health, and when the disease breaks out, it is seldom charged to these past miscarriages that laid in the provision for it.

The subject being chosen, the body and mind being both in a temper fit for study, what remains but that a man betake himself to it. These certainly are good preparatories, yet if there be not something else done, perhaps we shall not make all the profit we might.

1st. It is a duty we owe to God as the fountain and author of all truth, who is truth itself; and it is a duty also we owe our own-selves, if we will deal candidly and sincerely with our own souls, to have our minds constantly disposed to entertain and receive truth wheresoever we meet with it, or under whatsoever appearance of plain or ordinary, strange, new, or perhaps displeasing, it may come in our way. Truth is the proper object, the proper riches and furniture of the mind, and according as his stock of this is, so is the difference and value of one man above another. He that fills his head with vain notions and false opinions, may have his mind perhaps puffed up and seemingly much enlarged, but in truth it is



narrow and empty ; for all that it comprehends, all that it contains, amounts to nothing, or less than nothing ; for falsehood is below ignorance, and a lie worse than nothing.

Our first and great duty then is, to bring to our studies and to our inquiries after knowledge a mind covetous of truth ; that seeks after nothing else, and after that impartially, and embraces it, how poor, how contemptible, how unfashionable soever it may seem. This is that which all studious men profess to do, and yet it is that where I think very many miscarry. Who is there almost that has not opinions planted in him by education time out of mind ; which by that means come to be as the municipal laws of the country, which must not be questioned, but are then looked on with reverence as the standards of right and wrong, truth and falsehood ; when perhaps these so sacred opinions were but the oracles of the nursery, or the traditional grave talk of those who pretend to inform our childhood ; who received them from hand to hand without ever examining them. This is the fate of our tender age, which being thus seasoned early, it grows by continuation of time, as it were, into the very constitution of the mind, which afterwards very difficultly receives a different tincture. When we are grown up, we find the world divided into bands and companies ; not only as congregated under several politics and governments, but united only upon account of opinions, and in that respect, combined strictly one with another, and distinguished from others, especially in matters of religion. If birth or chance have not thrown a man young into any of these, which yet seldom fails to happen, choice, when he is grown up, certainly puts him into some or other of them ; often out of an opinion that that party is in the right, and sometimes because he finds it is not safe to stand alone, and therefore thinks it convenient to herd somewhere. Now, in every one of these parties of men there are a certain number of opinions which are received and owned as the doctrines and tenets of that society, with the profession and practice whereof all who are of their communion ought to give up themselves, or else they will be scarce looked on as of that

society, or at best, be thought but lukewarm brothers, or in danger to apostatize.

It is plain, in the great difference and contrariety of opinions that are amongst these several parties, that there is much falsehood and abundance of mistakes in most of them. Cunning in some, and ignorance in others, first made them keep them up; and yet how seldom is it that implicit faith, fear of losing credit with the party or interest, (for all these operate in their turns), suffers any one to question the tenet of his party; but altogether in a bundle he receives, embraces, and without examining, he professes, and sticks to them, and measures all other opinions by them. Worldly interest also insinuates into several men's minds divers opinions, which suiting with their temporal advantage, are kindly received, and in time so riveted there, that it is not easy to remove them. By these, and perhaps other means, opinions come to be settled and fixed in men's minds, which, whether true or false, there they remain in reputation as substantial material truths, and so are seldom questioned or examined by those who entertain them; and if they happen to be false, as in most men the greatest part must necessarily be, they put a man quite out of the way in the whole course of his studies; and though in his reading and inquiries he flatters himself that his design is to inform his understanding in the real knowledge of truth, yet in effect it tends and reaches to nothing but the confirming of his already received opinions, the things he meets with in other men's writings and discoveries being received or neglected as they hold proportion with those anticipations which before had taken possession of his mind. This will plainly appear if we look but on an instance or two of it. It is a principal doctrine of the Roman party to believe that their Church is infallible; this is received as the mark of a good Catholic, and implicit faith, or fear, or interest, keeps all men from questioning it. This being entertained as an undoubted principle, see what work it makes with scripture and reason; neither of them will be heard. The speaking with never so much clearness and demonstration, when they contradict any of

the doctrines or institutions ; and though it is not grown to that height, barefaced to deny the scripture, yet interpretations and distinctions, evidently contrary to the plain sense and to the common apprehensions of men, are made use of to elude its meaning, and preserve entire the authority of this their principle, that the Church is infallible. On the other side, make the light within our guide, and see what will become of reason and scripture. An Hobbist, with his principle of self-preservation, whereof himself is to be judge, will not easily admit a great many plain duties of morality. The same must necessarily be found in all men who have taken up principles without examining the truth of them. It being here, then, that men take up prejudice to truth without being aware of it, and afterwards, like men of corrupted appetites, when they think to nourish themselves, generally feed only on those things that suit with and increase the vicious humour,—this part is carefully to be looked after. These ancient pre-occupations of our minds, these several and almost sacred opinions, are to be examined, if we will make way for truth, and put our minds in that freedom which belongs and is necessary to them. A mistake is not the less so, and will never grow into a truth, because we have believed it a long time, though perhaps it be the harder to part with ; and an error is not the less dangerous, nor the less contrary to truth, because it is cried up and had in veneration by any party, though it is likely we shall be the less disposed to think it so. Here, therefore, we have need of all our force and all our sincerity ; and here it is we have use of the assistance of a serious and sober friend, who may help us sedately to examine these our received and beloved opinions ; for the mind by itself being prepossessed with them cannot so easily question, look round, and argue against them. They are the darlings of our minds, and it is as hard to find fault with them, as for a man in love to dislike his mistress ; there is need, therefore, of the assistance of another, at least it is very useful impartially to show us their defects, and help us to try them by the plain and evident principle of reason or religion.



2. This grand miscarriage in our study draws after it another of less consequence, which yet is very natural for bookish men to run into, and that is the reading of authors very intently and diligently to mind the arguments pro and con they use, and endeavour to lodge them safe in their memory, to serve them upon occasion. This, when it succeeds to the purpose designed, (which it only does in very good memories, and, indeed, is rather the business of the memory than judgment,) sets a man off before the world as a very knowing learned man, but upon trial will not be found to be so; indeed, it may make a man a ready talker and disputant, but not an able man. It teaches a man to be a fencer; but in the irreconcilable war between truth and falsehood, it seldom or never enables him to choose the right side, or to defend it well, being got of it. He that desires to be knowing indeed, that covets rather the possession of truth than the show of learning, that designs to improve himself in the solid substantial knowledge of things, ought, I think, to take another course; *i. e.* to endeavour to get a clear and true notion of things as they are in themselves. This being fixed in the mind well, (without trusting to or troubling the memory, which often fails us,) always naturally suggests arguments upon all occasions, either to defend the truth or confound error. This seems to me to be that which makes some men's discourses to be so clear, evident, and demonstrative, even in a few words; for it is but laying before us the true nature of any thing we would discourse of, and our faculty of reasoning is so natural to us, that the clear inferences do, as it were, make themselves: we have, as it were, an instinctive knowledge of the truth, which is always most acceptable to the mind, and the mind embraces it in its native and naked beauty. This way also of knowledge, as it is in less danger to be lost, because it burdens not the memory, but is placed in the judgment; so it makes a man talk always coherently and confidently to himself on which side soever he is attacked, or with whatever arguments the same truth, by its natural light and contrariety to falsehood, still shows, without much ado, or any great and long deduction of words, the weakness and absurdity of the op-

position : whereas the topical man, with his great stock of borrowed and collected arguments, will be found often to contradict himself ; for the arguments of divers men being often founded upon different notions, and deduced from contrary principles, though they may be all directed to the support or confutation of some one opinion, do, notwithstanding, often really clash one with another.

3. Another thing, which is of great use for the clear conception of truth, is, if we can bring ourselves to it, to think upon things abstracted and separate from words. Words, without doubt, are the great and almost only way of conveyance of one man's thoughts to another man's understanding ; but when a man thinks, reasons, and discourses within himself, I see not what need he has of them. I am sure it is better to lay them aside, and have an immediate converse with the ideas of the things ; for words are, in their own nature, so doubtful and obscure, their signification, for the most part, so uncertain and undetermined, which men even designedly have in their use of them increased, that if in our meditations, our thoughts busy themselves about words, and stick at the names of things, it is odds but they are misled or confounded. This, perhaps, at first sight may seem but an useless nicety, and in the practice, perhaps, it will be found more difficult than one would imagine ; but yet upon trial I dare say any one's experience will tell him it was worth while to endeavour it. He that would call to mind his absent friend, or preserve his memory, does it best and most effectually by reviving in his mind the idea of him, and contemplating that ; and it is but a very faint imperfect way of thinking of one's friend barely to remember his name, and think upon the sound he is usually called by.

4. It is of great use in the pursuit of knowledge not to be too confident, nor too distrustful of our own judgment, nor to believe we can comprehend all things nor nothing. He that distrusts his own judgment in every thing, and thinks his understanding not to be relied on in the search of truth, cuts off his own legs that he may be carried up and down by others, and makes himself a ridiculous dependant upon the knowledge of others, which can possibly be of no use to

him ; for I can no more know any thing by another man's understanding, than I can see by another man's eyes. So much I know, so much truth I have got; so far I am in the right, as I do really know myself; whatever other men have it is in their possession, it belongs not to me, nor can be communicated to me but by making me alike knowing; it is a treasure that cannot be lent or made over. On the other side, he that thinks his understanding capable of all things, mounts upon wings of his own fancy, though indeed Nature never meant him any, and so venturing into the vast expanse of incomprehensible verities, only makes good the fable of Icarus, and loses himself in the abyss. We are here in the state of mediocrity; finite creatures, furnished with powers and faculties very well fitted to some purposes, but very disproportionate to the vast and unlimited extent of things.

5. It would, therefore, be of great service to us to know how far our faculties can reach, that so we might not go about to fathom where our line is too short; to know what things are the proper objects of our inquiries and understanding, and where it is we ought to stop, and launch out no farther for fear of losing ourselves or our labour. This, perhaps, is an inquiry of as much difficulty as any we shall find in our way of knowledge, and fit to be resolved by a man when he is come to the end of his study, and not to be proposed to one at his setting out; it being properly the result to be expected after a long and diligent research to determine what is knowable and what not, and not a question to be resolved by the guesses of one who has scarce yet acquainted himself with obvious truths. I shall therefore, at present, suspend the thoughts I have had upon this subject, which ought maturely to be considered of, always remembering that things infinite are too large for our capacity; we can have no comprehensive knowledge of them, and our thoughts are at a loss and confounded when they pry too curiously into them. The essences also of substantial beings are beyond our ken; the manner also how Nature, in this great machine of the world, produces the several phenomena, and continues the species of things in a succes-



sive generation, &c., is what I think lies also out of the reach of our understanding. That which seems to me to be suited to the end of man, and lie level to his understanding, is the improvement of natural experiments for the conveniences of this life, and the way of ordering himself so as to attain happiness in the other—*i. e.* moral philosophy, which, in my sense, comprehends religion too, or a man's whole duty. [but vid. this alibi.]

6th. For the shortening of our pains, and keeping us from incurable doubt and perplexity of mind, and an endless inquiry after greater certainty than is to be had, it would be very convenient in the several points that are to be known and studied, to consider what proofs the matter in hand is capable of, and not to expect other kind of evidence than the nature of the thing will bear. Where it hath all the proofs that such a matter is capable of, there we ought to acquiesce, and receive it as an established and demonstrated truth; for that which hath all the evidence it can have, all that belongs to it, in the common state and order of things, and that supposing it to be as true as any thing ever was, yet you cannot possibly contrive nor imagine how to have better proofs of it than you have without a miracle: whatsoever is so, though there may be some doubts, some obscurity, yet is clear enough to determine our thoughts and fix our assent. The want of this caution, I fear, has been the cause why some men have turned sceptics in points of great importance, which yet have all the proofs that, considering the nature and circumstances of the things, any rational man can demand, or the most cautious fancy.

7th. A great help to the memory, and means to avoid confusion in our thoughts, is to draw out and have frequently before us a scheme of those sciences we employ our studies in, a map, as it were, of the mundus intelligibilis. This, perhaps, will be best done by every one himself for his own use, as best agreeable to his own notion, though the nearer it comes to the nature and order of things it is still the better. However, it cannot be decent for me to think my crude draught fit to regulate another's thoughts by, espe-

cially when, perhaps, our studies lie different ways ; though I cannot but confess to have received this benefit by it, that though I have changed often the subject I have been studying, read books by patches and accidentally, as they have come in my way, and observed no method nor order in my studies, yet making now and then some little reflection upon the order of things as they are, or at least I have fancied them to have in themselves, I have avoided confusion in my thoughts. The scheme I had made serving like a regular chest of drawers, to lodge those things orderly, and in the proper places, which came to hand confusedly, and without any method at all.

8th. It will be no hinderance at all to our study if we sometimes study ourselves, *i. e.* own abilities and defects. There are peculiar endowments and natural fitnesses, as well as defects and weaknesses, almost in every man's mind ; when we have considered and made ourselves acquainted with them, we shall not only be the better enabled to find out remedies for the infirmities, but we shall know the better how to turn ourselves to those things which we are best fitted to deal with, and so to apply ourselves in the course of our studies, as we may be able to make the greatest advantage. He that has a bittle and wedges put into his hand, may easily conclude he is ordered to cleave knotty pieces, and a plane and carving tools to design handsome figures.

It is too obvious a thing to mention the reading only the best authors on those subjects we would inform ourselves in. The reading of bad books is not only the loss of time and standing still, but going backwards quite out of one's way ; and he that has his head filled with wrong notions is much more at a distance from truth than he that is perfectly ignorant.

I will only say this one thing concerning books, that however it has got the name, yet converse with books is not, in my opinion, the principal part of study ; there are two others that ought to be joined with it, each whereof contributes their share to our improvement in knowledge ; and those are meditation and discourse.

Reading, methinks, is but collecting the rough materials, amongst which a great deal must be laid aside as useless. Meditation is, as it were, choosing and fitting the materials, framing the timbers, squaring and laying the stones, and raising the building; and discourse with a friend (for wrangling in a dispute is of little use,) is, as it were, surveying the structure, walking in the rooms, and observing the symmetry and agreement of the parts, taking notice of the solidity or defects of the works, and the best way to find out and correct what is amiss; besides that it helps often to discover truths, and fix them in our minds as much as either of the other two.

It is time to make an end of this long and overgrown discourse. I shall only add one word, and then conclude; and that is, that whereas in the beginning I cut off history from our study, as a useless part, as certainly it is, where it is read only as a tale that is told; here, on the other side, I recommend it to one who hath well settled in his mind the principles of morality, and knows how to make a judgment on the actions of men as one of the most useful studies he can apply himself to. There he shall see a picture of the world and the nature of mankind, and so learn to think of men as they are. There he shall see the rise of opinions, and find from what slight, and sometimes shameful occasions, some of them have taken their rise, which yet afterwards have had great authority, and passed almost for sacred in the world, and borne down all before them. There also one may learn great and useful instructions of prudence, and be warned against the cheats and rogueries of the world, with many more advantages, which I shall not here enumerate.

Monday, Dec. 12th, 1678. The principal spring from which the actions of men take their rise, the rule they conduct them by, and the end to which they direct them, seems to be credit and reputation, and that which at any rate they avoid, is in the greatest part shame and disgrace; this makes the Hurons and other people of Canada with such constancy endure inexpressible torments: this



makes merchants in one country, and soldiers in another; this puts men upon school divinity in one country, and physics and mathematics in another; this cuts out the dresses for the women, and makes the fashions for the men; and makes them endure the inconveniences of all. This makes men drunkards and sober, thieves and honest, and robbers themselves true to one and another. Religions are upheld by this and factions maintained, and the shame of being disesteemed by those with whom one hath lived, and to whom one would recommend oneself, is the great source and director of most of the actions of men. Where riches are in credit, knavery and injustice that produce them, are not out of countenance, because the state being got, esteem follows it, as in some countries the crown ennobles the blood. Where power, and not the good exercise of it gives reputation, all the injustice, falsehood, violence, and oppression that attains that, goes for wisdom and ability. Where love of one's country is the thing in credit, there we shall see a race of brave Romans; and when being a favourite at court was the only thing in fashion, one may observe the same race of Romans all turned flatterers and informers. He therefore that would govern the world well, had need consider rather what fashions he makes, than what laws; and to bring any thing into use he need only give it reputation.

“SCRUPULOSITY,\*

1678.

“SHALL I not pass with you for a great empiric if I offer but one remedy to the three maladies you complain of? Or at least will you not think me to use less care and application than becomes the name of friend you honour me with, if I think to make one answer serve the three papers you have sent me in matters very different? But yet if it be found, as I imagine it will, that they all depend on the same causes, I believe you will think they will not need different cures.

“I conceive then that the great difficulty, uncertainty, and perplexity of thought you complain of in these particulars, arise in great measure from

\* Probably a draft of a letter to Mr. Herbert.

this ground, that you think that a man is obliged strictly and precisely at all times to do that which is absolutely best; and that there is always some action so incumbent upon a man, so necessary to be done, preferable to all others, that if that be omitted, one certainly fails in one's duty, and all other actions whatsoever, otherwise good in themselves, yet coming in the place of some more important and better that at the time might be done, are tainted with guilt, and can be no more an acceptable offering to God than a blemished victim under the law.

“I confess sometimes our duty is so evident, and the rule and circumstance so determine it to the present performance, that there is no latitude left; nothing ought at that time to come in the room of it. But this I think happens seldom, at least I may confidently say it does not in the greatest part of the actions of our lives, wherein I think God, out of his infinite goodness, considering our ignorance and frailty, hath left us a great liberty. Love to God and charity to ourselves and neighbours are no doubt at all times indispensably necessary: but whilst we keep these warm in our hearts, and sincerely practise what they upon all occasions suggest to us, I cannot but think that God allows us in the ordinary actions of our lives a great latitude; so that two or more things being proposed to be done, neither of which crosses that fundamental law, but may very well consist with the sincerity wherewith we love God and our neighbour, I think it is at our choice to do either of them.

“The reasons that make me of this opinion are; 1st. That I cannot imagine that God, who has compassion upon our weakness and knows how we are made, would put poor men, nay, the best of men, those that seek him with sincerity and truth, under almost an absolute necessity of sinning perpetually against him, which will almost inevitably follow if there be no latitude at all allowed as in the occurrences of our lives, but that every instant of our being in the world has always incumbent on it one certain action exclusive of all others. For according to this supposition, the best being always to be done, and that being but one, it is almost impossible to know which is that one best, there being so many actions which may all have some peculiar and considerable goodness, which we are at the same time capable of doing, and so many nice circumstances and considerations to be weighed one against another, before we can come to make any judgment which is best, and after all are in great danger to be mistaken: the comparison of those actions that stand in competition together, with all

their grounds, motives, and consequences as they lie before us, being very hard to be made; and what makes the difficulty yet far greater is, that a great many of those which are of moment, and should come into the reckoning, always escape us; our short sight never penetrating far enough into any action to discover all that is comparatively good or bad in it, or the extent of our thoughts to reach all the actions, which at any one time we are capable of doing; so that at last, when we come to choose which is best, in making our judgment upon wrong and scanty measures, we cannot secure ourselves from being in the wrong; this is so evident in all the consultations of mankind, that should you select any number of the best and wisest men you could think of, to deliberate in almost any case what were best to be done, you should find them make almost all different propositions, wherein one (if one) only lighting on what is best, all the rest acting by the best of their skill and caution would have been sinners as missing of that one best. The apostles themselves were not always of one mind.

“ 2d. I cannot conceive it to be the design of God, nor to consist with either his goodness or our business in the world, to clog the action of our lives, even the minutest of them, (which will follow, if one thing that is best is always to be done,) with infinite consideration before we begin it, and unavoidable perplexity and doubt when it is done. When I sat down to write to you this hasty account, before I set pen to paper, I might have considered whether it were best for me ever to meddle with the answering your questions; my want of ability, it being, besides my business, the difficulty of advising any body, and presumption of advising one so far above me, would suggest doubts enough in the case. I might have debated with myself, whether it were best to take time to answer your demands, or, as I do, set to it presently.

“ 3d. Whether there were not somewhat better that I could do at this time.

“ 4th. I might doubt whether it were best to read any books on this subject before I gave you my opinion, or send you my own naked thoughts. To those, a thousand other scruples, as considerable, might be added, which would still beget others, in every one of which there would be, no doubt, still a better and a worse; which, if I should sit down, and with serious consideration endeavour to find and determine clearly and precisely with myself to the minutest difference, before I betake myself to give you an answer,



perhaps my whole age might be spent in the deliberation about writing two sides of paper to you, and I should perpetually blot out one word and put in another, erase to-morrow what I write to-day ; whereas, having this single consideration of complying with the desire of a friend whom I honour, and whose desires I think ought to have weight with me, who persuades me that I have an opportunity of giving him some pleasure in it, I cannot think I ought to be scrupulous in the point, or neglect obeying your commands, though I cannot be sure but that I might do better not to offer you my opinion, which may be instable ; and probably I should do better to employ my thoughts how to be able to cure you of a quartan ague, or to cure in myself some other and more dangerous faults, which is more properly my business. But my intention being respect and service to you, and all the design of my writing consisting with the love I owe to God and my neighbour, I should be very well satisfied with what I write, could I be as well assured it would be useful as I am past doubt it is lawful, and that I have the liberty to do it, and yet I cannot say, and I believe you will not think, it is the best thing I could do. If we were never to do but what is absolutely the best, all our lives would go away in deliberation and distraction, and we should never come to action.

“ 5th. I have often thought that our state here in this world is a state of mediocrity, which is not capable of extremes, though on one side there may be great excellency and perfection ; that we are not capable of continual rest, nor continual exercise, though the latter has certainly much more of excellence in it. We are not able to labour always with the body, nor always with the mind ; and to come to our present purpose, we are not capable of living altogether exactly by a rule, not altogether without it—not always retired, not always in company ; but this being but an odd notion of mine, it may suffice only to have mentioned it, my authority being no great argument in the case ; only give me leave to say, that if it holds true it will be applicable in several cases, and be of use to us in the conduct of our lives and actions ; but I have been too long already to enlarge on this fancy any further at present.

“ As to our actions in general things, this in short I think :

“ 1st. That all negative precepts are always to be obeyed.

“ 2nd. That positive commands only sometimes upon occasions ; but we ought to be always furnished with the habits and dispositions to those positive duties against those occasions.

“3rd. That between these two; *i. e.* between unlawful, which are always, and necessary, *quoad hic et nunc*, which are but sometimes, there is a great latitude, and therein we have our liberty, which we may use without scrupulously thinking ourselves obliged to that, which in itself may be best.

“If this be so, as I question not that you will conclude with me it is, the greatest cause of your scruples and doubts, I suppose, will be removed; and so the difficulties in the cases proposed will in a good measure be removed too. When I know from you whether I have guessed right or no, I may be encouraged to venture on two other causes, which I think may be concerned also in all the cases you propose; but being of much less moment than this I have mentioned here, may be deferred to another time, and then considered, *en passant*, before we come to take up the particular cases separately.

Memorandum. The two general causes that I suppose remaining, are :

“1st. Thinking things inconsistent that are not; viz. worldly business and devotion.

“2nd. Natural inconstancy of temper; where the cures are to be considered, at least, as far as this inconstancy is prejudicial, for no farther than that ought it to be cured.”

“SIR

—— 1678.

“By yours of the 21st. Nov. you assure me that in my last, on this occasion, I hit right on the principal and original cause of some disquiet you had upon the matter under consideration. I should have been glad to have known also, whether the cure I there offered were any way effectual; or wherein the reasons I gave came short of that satisfaction as to the point, viz. that we are not obliged to do always that which is precisely best, as was desired. For I think it most proper to the subduing those enemies of our quiet—fear, doubts, and scruples, and for establishing a lasting peace, to do as those who design the conquest of new territories, viz. clear the country as we go, and leave behind us no enemies unmastered; no lurking holes unsearched, no garrisons unreduced, which may give occasions to disorder and insurrection, and excite disturbances. If, therefore, in that, or any other papers, any of my arguments and reasonings shall appear weak and obscure; if they reach not the bottom of the matter, are wide of the particular case, or have not so cleared up the question in all the parts and

extent of it, as to settle the truth with evidence and certainty, I must beg you to let me know what doubts still remain, and upon what reasons grounded, that so in our progress we may look upon those propositions that you are once thoroughly convinced of, to be settled and established truths, of which you are not to doubt any more without new reasons that have not yet been examined. Or, on the other side, by your answers to my reasons I may be set right and recovered from an error. For as I write you nothing but my own thoughts, (which is vanity enough—but you will have it so,) yet I am not so vain as to imagine them infallible, and therefore expect from you that mutual great office of friendship, to show me my mistakes, and to reason me into a better understanding; for it matters not on which side the truth lies, so we do but find and embrace it. This way of proceeding is necessary on both our accounts; on mine, because in my friendship with you, as well as others, I design to gain by the bargain that which I esteem the great benefit of friendship, the rectifying my mistakes and errors, which makes me so willingly expose my crude extemporary thoughts to your view, and lay them, such as they are, before you: and on your account also I think it very necessary, for your mind having been long accustomed to think it true, that the thing absolutely in itself best ought always indispensably to be done, you ought, in order to the establishing your peace perfectly, examine and clear up that question, so as at the end of the debate to retain it still for true, or perfectly reject it as a mistaken or wrong measure; and to settle it as a maxim in your mind, that you are no more to govern yourself or thoughts by that false rule, but wholly lay it aside as condemned, without putting yourself to the trouble, every time you reflect on it, to weigh again all those reasons upon which you made that conclusion; and so also in any other opinions or principles, when you once come to be convinced of their falsehood. If this be not done, it will certainly happen, that this principle (and so of the rest) having been for a long time settled in your mind, will, upon every occasion, recur; and the reasons upon which you rejected it not being so familiar to your mind, nor so ready at hand to oppose it, the old acquaintance will be apt to resume his former station and influence, and be apt to disturb that quiet which had not its foundation perfectly established. For these reasons it is, that I think we ought to clear all as we go, and come to a plenary result in all the propositions that come under debate, before we go any farther. This has been usually my way with myself, to which, I think,



I owe a great part of my quiet ; and, I believe, a few good principles, well established, will reach farther, and resolve more doubts, than at first sight, perhaps, one would imagine ; and the grounds and rules on which the right and wrong of our actions turn, and which will generally serve to conduct us in the cares and occurrences of our lives, in all states and conditions, lie possibly in a narrower compass, and in a less number, than is ordinarily supposed ; but to come to them one must go by sure and well-grounded steps."

The argument is continued at great length, with the intent of reconciling worldly business and devotion.

1678. Happiness. That the happiness of man consists in pleasure whether of body or mind, according to every one's relish. The *summum malum* is pain, or dolor of body and mind ; that this is so, I appeal not only to the experience of all mankind, and the thoughts of every man's breast, but to the best rule of this the Scripture, which tells that at the right-hand of God, the place of bliss, are pleasures for evermore ; and that which men are condemned for, is not for seeking pleasure, but for preferring the momentary pleasures of this life to those joys which shall have no end.

Virtue. To make a man virtuous, three things are necessary : 1st. Natural parts and disposition. 2nd. Precepts and instruction. 3rd. Use and practice ; which is able better to correct the first, and improve the latter.

MAY 17th, 1678. According to the right of inheritance, by the law of Moses, the land of inheritance ought to have been divided into thirteen parts for the twelve sons of Jacob : viz. a double portion, *i. e.* two-thirteenths for Reuben the eldest, and one-thirteenth to each of the rest. Reuben, by his incest, forfeited one-half of his birthright, and was disinherited ; and Joseph, (who had saved the family, and was the eldest son of Rachael, designed by Jacob for his first wife) had this double portion shared between his two sons, Ephraim and Manasses. Levi, in the mean time <sup>and</sup> got its one-thirteenth of land, but one-tenth of all the product, <sup>and</sup> by which account, it follows, that the rest of the tribes paid but one-fortieth to the tribe

of Levi by their tithes, as having the one-thirteenth part of the land of inheritance belonging to the tribe of Levi, all except some few towns allotted the Levites for habitation, divided amongst them the lay tribes.

MAY 21st. 1678.—A civil law is nothing but the agreement of a society of men either by themselves, or one or more authorised by them : determining the rights, and appointing rewards and punishments to certain actions of all within that society.

Fermentation. I saw by chance, an experiment which confirmed me in an opinion I have long had, that in fermentation, a new air is generated.

M. Toinard produced a large bottle of Muscat ; it was clear when he set it on the table, but when he had drawn out the stopper, a multitude of little bubbles arose, and swelled the wine above the mouth of the bottle. It comes from this, that the air which was included and disseminated in the liquor, had liberty to expand itself, and so to become visible, and being much lighter than the liquor, to mount with great quickness. Q. Whether this be air new generated, or whether the springy particles of air in the fruits out of which these fermenting liquors are drawn, have by the artifice of Nature been pressed close together, and thereby other particles fastened and held so ; and whether fermentation does not loose these bonds, and give them liberty to expand themselves again ? Take a bottle of fermenting liquor, and tie a bladder on the mouth. Q. How much new air will it produce ? whether this has the quality of common air ?

SEPT. 4th. 1678.—In the reading of books, methinks these are the principal parts or heads of things to be taken notice of. 1st. The knowledge of things ; their essence and nature, properties, causes, and consequences of each species, which I call philosophica, and must be divided according to the several orders and species of things : and of these, so far as <sup>you</sup> have the true notion of things as really they are in their indistinct beings, so far we advance in real and true knowledge. This improvement of our understandings is to be got more

by meditation than reading, though that also is not to be neglected, and the faculty chiefly exercised about this, the judgment. The second head is history, wherein it being both impossible in itself, and useless also to us to remember every particular, I think the most useful, to observe the opinions we find amongst mankind concerning God, religion, and morality, and the rules they have made to themselves, or practice has established in any of these matters, and here the memory is principally employed. The third head is that which is of most use; that is, what things we find amongst other people fit for our imitation, whether politic or private wisdom; any arts conducing to the conveniences of life. The fourth, is any natural production that may be transplanted into our country, or commodities which may be an advantageous commerce; and these concern practice or action.

The first, I call *Adversaria Philosophica*, which must be divided into the several species of things as they come in one's way. The second, *Adversaria Historica*, comprehending the opinions or traditions which are to be found amongst men, concerning God, Creation, Revelation, Prophecies, Miracles.

2d. Their rules or institutes, concerning things that are duties, sins, or indifferent in matters of religion, or things that are commanded, forbidden, or permitted by their municipal laws in order to civil society, which I call *Instituta*, which contain—

Officia Religiosa	}	Lege divina et ad cultum divinum.
Peccata		
Indifferentia		
Officia Civilia	}	Lege civili.
Crimina		
Licita		

The ways they use to obtain blessings from the Divinity, or atone for their sins, which I call *Petitoria Expiatoria*; and last of all, any supernatural things that are to be observed amongst them, magical arts or real predictions.



The third I call *Adversaria Immitanda*, and that is whatever wise practices are to be found either for governing of policies, or a man's private conduct, or any beneficial arts employed on natural bodies for their improvement to our use, which contains these heads—

*Politica sive sapientia civilis.*

*Prudentia sive sapientia privata.*

*Physica sive artes circa.*

*Potum.*

*Cibum.*

*Medicinam.*

*Motus ubi mechanica.*

*Sensuum objecta.*

The fourth I call *Adversaria Acquirenda*, which are the natural products of the country, fit to be transplanted into ours, and there propagated, or else brought thither for some useful quality they have; or else to mark the commodities of the country, whether natural or artificial, which they send out, and are the proper business of merchandise to get by their commerce, and these are the following, *Acquirenda* and *Merces*. There is yet one more, which is the history of natural causes and effects, wherein it may be convenient in our reading to observe these several properties of bodies, and the several effects that several bodies or their qualities have one upon another; and principally to remark those that may contribute either to the improvement of arts, or give light into the nature of things, which is that which I called above *Philosophica*; which I conceive to consist in having a true, clear, and distinct idea of the nature of any thing, which in natural things or real things, because we are ignorant of their essence, takes in their causes properties and effects, or as much of them as we can know, and in moral beings their essence and consequences. This Natural History I call *Historica Physica referenda secundum Species*.

DECEMBER 28, 1680. Rushworth, an 1640. p. 1221. This note to be added in the margin. This second coming in of the Scots was occasioned and principally encouraged by a letter which the Lord

Saville, afterwards Earl of Sussex, writ with his own hand, and forged the names of a dozen or fourteen of the chiefest of the English nobility; together with his own, which he sent into Scotland by the hands of Mr. H. Darley, who remained there as agent from the said English Lords until he had brought the Scots in. At the meeting of the Grand Council, when the English and Scots Lords came together, the letter caused great dispute amongst them; till at last my Lord Saville, being reconciled to the Court, confessed to the King the whole matter.—A. E. S.\*

The like marginal note to be added p. 1260.—This petition was presented to the King at York by the hands of the Lord Mandevill and the Lord Edward Howard. The King immediately called a Cabinet Council, wherein it was concluded to cut off both the Lords' heads the next day; when the council was up, and the King gone, Duke Hamilton, and the Earl of Strafford, General of the Army, remaining behind, when Duke Hamilton, asking the Earl of Strafford whether the army would stand to them, the Earl of Strafford answered he feared not, and protested he did not think of that before then. Hamilton replied, if we are not sure of the army, it may be our heads instead of theirs; whereupon they both agreed to go to the King and alter the council, which accordingly they did.

MAY 5th, 1681.—Coleman's Sermon on Job II. 20. 4to. London. 45. p. 35.

The 1st Cor. 5, and Matt. 18, are the common places on which are erected Church Government. Padre Paolo writ many years before, that when the English hierarchy shall fall into the hands of busy and audacious men, or meet with a Prince tractable to Prelacy, then much mischief is likely to ensue in that kingdom. Ib. p. 33.—Quære. Whether there be any such thing?

MAY 16th, 1681.—The three great things that govern mankind are Reason, Passion, and Superstition; the first governs a few, the two last share the bulk of mankind, and possess them in their turns; but superstition is most powerful, and produces the greatest mischiefs.

\* Does A. E. S. mean Anthony Earl of Shaftesbury?

JUNE 24th.—There are two sorts of knowledge in the world, general and particular, founded upon two different principles; *i. e.* true ideas, and matter of fact, or history. All general knowledge is founded only upon true ideas; and so far as we have these, we are capable of demonstration, or certain knowledge: for he that has the true idea of a triangle or circle, is capable of knowing any demonstration concerning these figures; but if he have not the true idea of a scalenon, he cannot know any thing concerning a scalenon, though he may have some confused or imperfect opinion concerning a scalenon, upon a confused or imperfect idea of it; or when he believes what others say concerning a scalenon, he may have some uncertain opinion concerning its properties; but this is a belief, and not knowledge. Upon the same reason, he that has a true idea of God, of himself, as his creature, or the relation he stands in to God and his fellow-creatures, and of justice, goodness, law, happiness, &c. &c., is capable of knowing moral things, or have a demonstrative certainty in them. But though, I say, a man that hath such ideas, is capable of certain knowledge in them, yet I do not say that presently he hath thereby that certain knowledge, no more than that he that hath a true idea of a triangle and a right angle, doth presently thereby know that three angles of a triangle are equal to two right ones. He may believe others that tell him so, but know it not till he himself hath employed his thoughts on and seen the connection and agreement of their ideas, and so made to himself the demonstration; *i. e.* upon examination seen it to be so. The first great step, therefore, to knowledge, is to get the mind furnished with true ideas, which the mind being capable of knowing of moral things as well as figures, I cannot but think morality, as well as mathematics, capable of demonstration, if men would employ their understandings to think more about it, and not give themselves up to the lazy, traditional way of talking one after another. By the knowledge of natural bodies, and their operation reaching little farther than bare matter of fact, without having perfect ideas of the ways and manners they are produced, nor the concurrent causes



they depend on ; and also the well management of public or private affairs depending upon the various and unknown humours, interests, and capacity of men we have to do with in the world, and not upon any settled ideas of things. Physique, polity, and prudence, are not capable of demonstration, but a man is principally helped in them by the history of matter-of-fact, and a sagacity of enquiring into probable causes, and finding out an analogy in their operations and effects. Knowledge then depends upon right and true ideas ; opinion upon history and matter-of-fact ; and hence it comes to pass, that our knowledge of general things are *eternæ veritates*, and depend not upon the existence or accidents of things, for the truths of mathematics and morality are certain, whether men make true mathematical figures, or suit their actions to the rules of morality or no. For that the three angles of a triangle are equal to two right ones, is infallibly true, whether there be any such figure as a triangle existing in the world or no. And it is true, that it is every man's duty to be just, whether there be any such thing as a just man in the world or no. But whether this course in public or private, affairs will succeed well,—whether rhubarb will purge, or quinquina cure an ague, is only known by experience ; and there is but probability grounded upon experience or analogical reasoning, but no certain knowledge or demonstration.

By having true and perfect ideas, we come to be in a capacity of having perfect knowledge, which consists in two parts : 1st. The knowing the properties of the thing itself ; thus he that hath the true idea of a triangle, may know, if he will examine and follow the conduct of his reason, that its three angles are equal to two right ones, and the like. 2nd. The knowing how it stands related to any other figure, of which he has a perfect idea ; viz. that of a triangle. But without the having these ideas true and perfect, he is not capable of knowing any of these properties in the thing itself, or relative to any other, though he may be able to say, after others when he has affirmed it, that the three angles of a triangle are equal to two right ones, and believe them to signify truth ; though he himself

knows not what these words signify, if he have no true ideas of a triangle or right angles, or knows them not to be true, if he have not made out to himself that demonstration which is by comparing the ideas and their parts together.

The best Algebra yet extant is Outred's, though to all Algebra there needs but two theorems of Euclid, and five rules of Descartes, but those who are not masters of it make use of more.

“ *Les esprits populaires s'offence de tout ce qui repugne à leurs préjugés;*” one ought to take care, therefore, in all discourses, whether narrative or matter-of-fact, instructive to teach any doctrine, or persuasive, to take care of shocking the received opinion of those one has to deal with, whether true or false.

JUNE 26th.—To choose, is to will one thing before another, and to will is to bend our souls to the having or doing of that which they see to be good ; (Hooker 553, p. 78.) or rather, to will is, after consideration, or upon knowledge and choice, to begin or continue any thought of the mind, or motion of the body, in our power.

Sunday, AUGUST 7th, 1681.—Whatsoever carries any excellency with it, and includes not imperfection, must needs make a part of the idea we have of God. So that with being, and the continuation of it, or perpetual duration, power and wisdom and goodness must be ingredients of the perfect or super-excellent Being which we call God, and that in the utmost or infinite degree. But yet that unlimited power cannot be an excellency without it be regulated by wisdom and goodness ; for since God is eternal and perfect in his own being, he cannot make use of that power to change his own being into a better or another state ; and therefore all the exercise of that power must be in and upon his creatures, which cannot but be employed for their good and benefit, as much as the order and perfection of the whole can allow each individual in its particular rank and station : and therefore looking on God as a being infinite in goodness as well as power, we cannot imagine he hath made any thing with a design that it should be miserable, but that he hath afforded it all the means of being happy that its nature and estate

is capable of: and though justice be also a perfection which we must necessarily ascribe to the Supreme Being, yet we cannot suppose the exercise of it should extend farther than his goodness has need of it for the preservation of his creatures in the order and beauty of the state that he has placed each of them in; for since our actions cannot reach unto him, or bring him any profit or damage, the punishments he inflicts on any of his creatures, *i. e.* the misery or destruction he brings upon them, can be nothing else but to preserve the greater or more considerable part, and so being only for preservation, his justice is nothing but a branch of his goodness, which is fain by severity to restrain the irregular and destructive parts from doing harm; for to imagine God under a necessity of punishing for any other reason but this, is to make his justice a great imperfection, and to suppose a power over him that necessitates him to operate contrary to the rules of his wisdom and goodness, which cannot be supposed to make any thing so idly as that it should be purposely destined or be put in a worse state than destruction, (misery being as much a worse state than annihilation, as pain is than insensibility, or the torments of a rack less eligible than quiet sound sleeping :) the justice then of God can be supposed to extend no farther than infinite goodness shall find it necessary for the preservation of his works.

Sunday, SEPT. 18th, 1681.—Religion being that homage and obedience which man pays immediately to God, it supposes that man is capable of knowing that there is a God, and what is required by, and is acceptable to Him, thereby to avoid his anger and procure his favour. That there is a God, and what that God is, nothing can discover to us, nor judge in us, but natural reason. For whatever discovery we receive any other way, must come originally from inspiration, which is an opinion or persuasion in the mind whereof a man knows not the rise nor reason, but is received there as a truth, coming from an unknown, and therefore a supernatural cause, and not founded upon those principles nor observations in the way of reasoning which makes the understanding admit other things for



truths. But no such inspiration concerning God, or his worship, can be admitted for truth by him that thinks himself thus inspired, much less by any other whom he would persuade to believe him inspired, any farther than it is conformable to reason; not only because where reason is not, I judge it is impossible for a man himself to distinguish betwixt inspiration and fancy, truth and error; but also it is impossible to have such a notion of God, as to believe that he should make a creature to whom the knowledge of himself was necessary, and yet not to be discovered by that way which discovers every thing else that concerns us, but was to come into the minds of men only by such a way by which all manner of errors come in, and is more likely to let in falsehoods than truths, since nobody can doubt, from the contradiction and strangeness of opinions concerning God and religion in this world, that men are likely to have more frenzies than inspirations. Inspiration then, barely in itself, cannot be a ground to receive any doctrine not conformable to reason. In the next place, let us see how far inspiration can enforce on the mind any opinion concerning God or his worship, when accompanied with a power to do a miracle; and here, too, I say, the last determination must be that of reason.

1st. Because reason must be the judge what is a miracle and what not; which, not knowing how far the power of natural causes do extend themselves, and what strange effects they may produce, is very hard to determine.

2nd. It will always be as great a miracle, that God should alter the course of natural things to overturn the principles of knowledge and understanding in a man, by setting up any thing to be received by him as a truth, which his reason cannot assent to, as the miracle itself; and so at best, it will be but one miracle against another, and the greater still on reason's side; it being harder to believe that God should alter, and put out of its ordinary course some phenomenon of the great world for once, and make things act contrary to their ordinary rule, purposely that the mind of man might do so

always afterwards, than that this is some fallacy or natural effect of which he knows not the cause, let it look never so strange.

3rd. Because man does not know whether there be not several sorts of creatures above him, and between him and the Supreme, amongst which there may be some that have the power to produce in Nature such extraordinary effects as we call miracles, and may have the will to do it, for other reasons than the confirmation of truth; for the magicians of Egypt turned their rods into serpents as well as Moses; and since so great a miracle as that was done in opposition to the true God, and the revelation sent by him, what miracle can have certainty and assurance greater than that of a man's reason.

And if inspiration have so much the disadvantage of reason in the man himself who is inspired, it has much more so in him who receives the revelation only by tradition from another, and that too very remote in time and place.

I do not hereby deny in the least that God can do, or hath done, miracles for the confirmation of truth; but I only say that we cannot think he should do them to enforce doctrines or notions of himself, or any worship of him not conformable to reason, or that we can receive such for truth for the miracle's sake: and even in those books which have the greatest proof of revelation from God, and the attestation of miracles to confirm their being so, the miracles are to be judged by the doctrine, and not the doctrine by the miracles, *v. Deut. xiii. i. Matt. xiv. 24.* And St. Paul says, "If an angel from Heaven should teach any other doctrine," &c. &c.

Sunday, FEB. 19th, 1682.—A strong and firm persuasion of any proposition relating to religion, for which a man hath either no or not sufficient proofs from reason, but receives them as truths wrought in the mind extraordinarily by influence coming immediately from God himself, seems to me to be enthusiasm, which can be no evidence or ground of assurance at all, nor can by any means be taken for knowledge. If such groundless thoughts as these, concerning ordi-

nary matters, and not religion, possess the mind strongly, we call it raving, and every one thinks it a degree of madness ; but in religion, men, accustomed to the thoughts of revelation, make a greater allowance to it, though indeed it be a more dangerous madness ; but men are apt to think in religion they may, and ought, to quit their reason.

I find that the Christians, Mahometans, and Brahmins, all pretend to this immediate inspiration, but it is certain that contradictions and falsehoods cannot come from God ; nor can any one that is of the true religion, be assured of any thing by a way whereof those of a false religion may be, and are equally confirmed in theirs. For the Turkish dervishes pretend to revelations, ecstasies, visions, raptures, to be transported with illumination of God. *v. Ricaut*. The Jaugis, amongst the Hindoos, talk of being illuminated and entirely united to God, *v. Bernier*, as well as the most spiritualized Christians.

APRIL 6th.—It is to be observed concerning these illuminations, that how clear soever they may seem, they carry no knowledge nor certainty any farther than there are proofs of the truth of those things that are discovered by them ; and so far they are parts of reason, and have the same foundation with other persuasions in a man's mind, whereof his reason judges. If there be no proofs of them, they pass for nothing but mere imaginations of the fancy, how clearly soever they appear, or acceptable they may be to the mind. For it is not the clearness of the fancy, but the evidence of the truth of the thing, which makes the certainty. He that should pretend to have a clear sight of a Turkish paradise, and of an angel sent to direct him thither, might, perhaps, have a very clear imagination of all this ; but it altogether no more proved that either there were such a place, or that an angel had the conduct of him thither, than if he saw all this in colours well-drawn by a painter. These two pictures being no more different as to the appearance of any thing resembled by them, than that one is a fleeting draught in the imagination, the other a lasting one on a sensible body.



That which makes all the pretenders to supernatural illumination farther to be suspected to be merely the effect and operation of the fancy, is, that all the preparations and ways used to dispose the mind to those illuminations, and make it capable of them, are such as are apt to disturb and depress the rational power of the mind, and to advance and set on work the fancy ; such are fasting, solitude, intense and long meditation on the same thing, opium, intoxicating liquors, long and vehement turning round, all which are used by some or other of those who would attain to those extraordinary discourses, as fit preparations of the mind to receive them, all which do really weaken and disturb the rational faculty, let loose the imagination, and thereby make the mind less steady in distinguishing betwixt truth and fancy.

I do not remember that I have read of any enthusiasts amongst the Americans, or any who have not pretended to a revealed religion, as all those before mentioned do ; which if so, it naturally suggests this inquiry, Whether those that found their religion upon Revelation, do not from thence take occasion to imagine, that since God has been pleased by Revelation to discover to them the general precepts of their religion ; they that have a particular interest in his favour have reason to expect that he will reveal Himself to them, if they take the right way to seek it in those things that concern them in particular, in reference to their conduct, state, or comfort ; but of this I shall conclude nothing till I shall be more fully assured in matter-of-fact.

Enthusiasm is a fault in the mind opposite to brutish sensuality ; as far in the other extreme exceeding the just measure of reason, as thoughts grovelling only in matter, and things of sense, come short of it.

APRIL 20.—The usual physical proof (if I may so call it) of the immortality of the soul is this : matter cannot think, *ergo*, the soul is immaterial ; nothing can really destroy an immaterial thing, *ergo*, the soul is really immaterial.

Those who oppose these men, press them very hard with the souls of beasts; for, say they, beasts feel and think, and therefore their souls are immaterial, and consequently immortal. This has by some men been judged so urgent, that they have rather thought fit to conclude all beasts perfect machines, rather than allow their souls immortality or annihilation, both which seem harsh doctrines; the one being out of the reach of Nature, and so cannot be received as the natural state of beasts after this life; the other equalling them, in a great measure, to the state of man, if they shall be immortal as well as he.

But methinks, if I may be permitted to say so, neither of these speak to the point in question, and perfectly mistake immortality; whereby is not meant a state of bare substantial existence and duration, but a state of sensibility; for that way that they use of proving the soul to be immortal, will as well prove the body to be so too; for since nothing can really destroy a material substance more than immaterial, the body will naturally endure as well as the soul for ever; and therefore, in the body they distinguish betwixt duration, and life, or sense, but not in the soul; supposing it in the body to depend on texture, and a certain union with the soul, but in the soul upon its indivisible and immutable constitution and essence; and so that it can no more cease to think and perceive, than it can cease to be immaterial or something. But this is manifestly false, and there is scarce a man that has not experience to the contrary every twenty-four hours. For I ask what sense or thought the soul (which is certainly then in a man) has during two or three hours of sound sleep without dreaming, whereby it is plain that the soul may exist or have duration for some time without sense or perception; and if it may have for this hour, it may also have the same duration without pain or pleasure, or any thing else, for the next hour, and so to eternity; so that to prove that immortality of the soul, simply because it being naturally not to be destroyed by any thing, it will have an eternal duration, which duration may be without any perception,

which is to prove no other immortality of the soul than what belongs to one of Epicurus's atoms, viz. that it perpetually exists, but has no sense either of happiness or misery.

“ If they say, as some do, that the soul during a sound quiet sleep perceives and thinks, but remembers it not, one may, with as much certainty and evidence, say that the bed-post thinks and perceives too all the while, but remembers it not ; for I ask whether during this profound sleep the soul has any sense of happiness or misery ; and if the soul should continue in that state to eternity, (with all that sense about it whereof it hath no consciousness nor memory,) whether there could be any such distinct state of heaven or hell, which we suppose to belong to souls after this life, and for which only we are concerned for and inquisitive after its immortality ; and to this I leave every man to answer to his own self, viz. if he should continue to eternity in the same sound sleep he has sometimes been in, whether he would be ever a jot more happy or miserable during that eternity than the bedstead he lay on. Since, then, experience of what we find daily in sleep, and very frequently in swooning and apoplexy, &c., put it past doubt that the soul may subsist in a state of insensibility, without partaking in the least degree of happiness, misery, or any perception whatsoever, (and whether death, which the Scripture calls sleep, may not put the souls of some men at least into such a condition, I leave those who have well considered the story of Lazarus to conjecture,) shall establish the existence of the soul, will not, therefore, prove its being in a state of happiness or misery, since it is evident that perception is no more necessary to its being than motion is to the being of body. Let, therefore, spirit be in its own nature as durable as matter, that no power can destroy it but that Omnipotence that at first created it ; they may both lie dead and inactive, the one without thought, the other without motion, a minute, an hour, or to eternity, which wholly depends upon the will and good pleasure of the first Author ; and he that will not live conformable to such a future state, out of the undoubted certainty that God can,



and the strong probability, amounting almost to certainty, that he will put the souls of men into a state of life or perception after the dissolution of their bodies, will hardly be brought to do it upon the force of positions, which are, by their own experience, daily contradicted, and will, at best, if admitted for true, make the souls of beasts immortal as well as theirs.

“APRIL 26, 1682.—‘*Neque ante Philosophian patefactam quæ nuper inventa est.*’—Cicero. If Philosophy had been in Tully’s time not long in the world, it is likely the world is not older than our account, since it is impossible to imagine that the world should be so old as some would reckon, much more that the generation of men should have been from eternity, and yet philosophy not be found out by the inquisitive mind of man till a little before Tully’s time.

“‘*Naturâ futura præsentiant aut aquarum fluxiones aut deflagrationem futuram aliquando cœli atque terrarum,*’ an old opinion, it seems, that the world should perish by fire.

“The loadstone itself, that we have reason to think is as old as the world, and is to be found plentifully in several parts of it, and very apt to make itself be taken notice of by so sensible and so surprising an effect as is its attraction of iron, and its steady adhesion to it; and can one imagine the busy inquisitive nature of man, in an infinite number of ages, should never by chance, or out of curiosity, observe that working and pointing to the north which that stone has in itself, and so readily communicates to iron? Can we think it reasonable to suppose that it required as long a duration as was from eternity to our great-grandfathers’ days, to discover this useful quality in that common metal? in which it is so near natural, that almost every place has the virtue of a loadstone to produce it; our common utensils get it only by standing in our chimney-corners. And yet the discovery, when once made, does, by its proper use, so unavoidably spread itself over all the world, that nothing less than total extirpation of all mankind can ever possibly make it be forgotten.

“It is a matter of great admiration how the art of printing

should be so many ages undiscovered, and how the ancients, who were skilled in graving on brass, should miss this great art of dispatch, when it was so natural to consider how easy it would be to imprint, in a moment, on paper, all those graved characters, which it would cost a great deal of time even first to write with a pen; though this thought never occurred in several ages; so fair a beginning was never improved into the art of printing till about 200 years since; yet eternity of the world could by no means admit so late a discovery of it, and it is impossible to imagine that men, in an infinite succession of generations, should not infinitely sooner have perfected so useful and obvious an invention, which when once brought to light, must needs continue to eternity, if the world should last so long."

Some of these last articles are selected from the journal subsequent to Locke's arrival in England, as may be observed from their dates; they have been arranged in their present order to prevent confusion. For some years after that period the journal contains very little except private memoranda, medical observations, extracts from books, and dates of the change of residence. There are occasionally notices of other things, such as the following:

"1681, March 1st. This day I saw Alice George, a woman, as she said, of 108 years old at Allhallow-tide last: she lived in St. Giles' parish, Oxford, and has lived in and about Oxford since she was a young woman; she was born at Saltwych, in Worcestershire; her father lived to eighty-three, her mother to ninety-six, and her mother's mother to 111. When she was young she was neither fat nor lean, but very slender in the waist; for her size she was to be reckoned rather amongst the tall than the short women; her condition was but mean, and her maintenance her labour. She said she was able to have reaped as much in a day as a man, and had as much wages; she was married at thirty, and had fifteen children, viz. ten sons and five daughters, besides five miscarriages; she has three sons still alive, her eldest, John, living next door to her, seventy-seven years old the 25th of this month. She goes upright

with a staff in one hand, but I saw her stoop twice without resting upon any thing, taking up once a pot, and at another time her glove from the ground ; her hearing is very good, and her smelling so quick, that as soon as she came near me, she said I smelt very sweet, I having a pair of new gloves on that were not strong scented ; her eyes she complains of as failing her since her last sickness, which was an ague that seized her about two years since, and held her about a year ; and yet she made a shift to thread a needle before us, though she seemed not to see the end of the thread very perfectly ; she has as comely a face as ever I saw any old woman have, and age has neither made her deformed nor decrepit. The greatest part of her food now is bread and cheese, or bread and butter, and ale. Sack revives her when she can get it ; for flesh she cannot now eat unless it be roasting pig, which she loves. She had, she said, in her years a good stomach, and ate what came in her way, oftener wanting victuals than a stomach. Her memory and understanding perfectly good and quick. Amongst a great deal of discourse we had with her, and stories she told, she spoke not one idle or impertinent word. Before this last ague she used to go to church constantly, Sundays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays ; since that she walks not beyond her little garden : she has been ever since her being married troubled sometime with vapours, and so is still, but never took any physic but once, about forty years since. She said she was sixteen in 1588, and went then to Worcester to see Queen Elizabeth, but came an hour too late, which agrees with her account of her age."

In this part of the journal there is at length an account of Captain Wood's reasons for, and observations on, his attempt of the North-west passage in 1676 ; it was grounded on the opinion of one William Barants, a Hollander, who attempted the passage in 1605, and it was then thought that an open sea would have been found at the Pole. After giving the authority and information of several Dutch captains, &c. " upon these considerations he set out in the Speedwell with sixty-eight men and boys, and a pink, called the Prosperous, to attend her at the beginning of the voyage, May 28, 1676



from the buoy at the Nore ; and on the 29th of June following, their ship split upon a ledge of rocks, at Nova Zembla, where they endured great hardships ; being relieved and taken in by the *Prosperous*, they returned to the buoy at the Nore on the 23rd of August following."

\* \* \* \* \*

" He (the Captain) conceives the Dutch relations are all false, lying pamphlets, and so also the relations of our own countrymen. He believes that if there be no land north of lat. 80, that the sea there is all frozen, &c. &c.

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I shall conclude these extracts with the following little incident, belonging to an episcopal visitation in the century before the last.

" Monday, August 2nd, 1680. From Salisbury to Basingstoke, thirty miles ; where being a visitation of the Bishops, Mr. Carter, who found it a long time now to the next presentment, sat drinking with his churchwardens next chamber to me, and after drink had well warmed them, a case of doctrine or discipline engaged them in a quarrel, which broke out into defiance and cuffs, and about midnight raised the house to keep the peace, but so fruitlessly, that between skirmishing, parleys, and loud defiances, the whole night was spent in noise and tumult, of which I had more than sleep. In the morning when I rose all was quiet, and the parson a-bed, where he was like to be kept past his ale and sleep, his gown having more of the honour of a tattered colours than a divinity robe !"

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The following directions appear to have been set down for some foreigner about to visit England. They are curious, as affording a comparison with the improvement of the present time.

" ENGLAND.—1679.

" The sports of England, which, perhaps, a curious stranger would be glad to see, are horse-racing, hawking, and hunting. Bowling.—

At Marebone and Putney he may see several persons of quality bowling two or three times a week all the summer; wrestling, in Lincoln's Inne Field every evening all the summer; bear and bull-baiting, and sometime prizes, at the Bear-Garden; shooting in the long-bow and stob-ball, in Tothill Fields; cudgel-playing, in several places in the country; and hurling, in Cornwall.

“LONDON:—See the East India House, and their magazines; the Custom House; the Thames, by water, from London Bridge to Deptford; and the King's Yard at Deptford; the sawing-windmill; Tradescant's garden and closet; Sir James Morland's closet and water-works; the iron mills at Wandsworth, four miles above London, upon the Thames; or rather those in Sussex; Paradise by Hatton Garden; the glass-house at the Savoy, and at Vauxhall. Eat fish in Fish Street, especially lobsters, Colchester oysters, and a fresh cod's-head. The veal and beef are excellent good in London; the mutton better in several counties in England. A venison pasty and a chine of beef are good every where; and so are crammed capons and fat chickens. Railes and heath-polts, ruffs, and reeves, are excellent meat wherever they can be met with. Puddings of several sorts, and creams of several fashions, both excellent, but they are seldom to be found, at least in their perfection, at common eating-houses. Mango and saio are two sorts of sauces brought from the East Indies. Bermuda oranges and potatoes, both exceeding good in their kind. Cheddar and Cheshire cheese.

“Men excellent in their Arts.

“Mr. Cox, in Long Acre, for all sorts of dioptical glasses.

“Mr. Opheel, near the Savoy, for all sorts of machines.

“Mr. ———, for a new invention he has, and teaches to copy all sorts of pictures, plans, or to take prospects of places.

“The King's gunsmith, at the Yard by Whitehall.

“Mr. Not, in the Pall Mall, for binding of books.

“The Fire-eater.

“At an ironmonger's, near the May-pole, in the Strand, is to be found a great variety of iron instruments, and utensils of all kinds.

“ At Bristol see the Hot-well ; St. George’s Cave, where the Bristol diamonds are found ; Ratcliff Church ; and at Kingwood the coal-pits. Taste there Milford oysters, marrow-puddings, cock-ale, metheglin, white and red muggets, elvers, sherry, sack, (which, with sugar, is called Bristol milk ;) and some other wines, which, perhaps, you will not drink so good at London.

“ At Gloucester observe the whispering place in the Cathedral.

“ At Oxford see all the colleges, and their libraries ; the schools, and public library ; and the physic-garden. Buy there knives and gloves, especially white kid-skin ; and the cuts of all the colleges graved by Loggins.

“ If you go into the North, see the Peak in Derbyshire, described by Hobbs, in a Latin poem, called “ *Mirabilia Pecci.*”

“ Home-made drinks of England are beer and ale, strong and small ; those of most note, that are to be sold, are Lambeth ale, Margaret ale, and Derby ale ; Herefordshire cider, perry, mede. There are also several sorts of compounded ales, as cock-ale, worm-wood-ale, lemon-ale, scurvygrass-ale, college-ale, &c. These are to be had at Hercules Pillars, near the Temple ; at the Trumpet, and other houses in Sheer Lane, Bell Alley ; and, as I remember, at the English Tavern, near Charing Cross.

“ Foreign drinks to be found in England are all sorts of Spanish, Greek, Italian, Rhenish, and other wines, which are to be got up and down at several taverns. Coff  , th  , and chocolate, at coffee-houses. Mum at the mum houses, and other places ; and Molly, a drink of Barbadoes, by chance at some Barbadoes merchants. Punch, a compounded drink, on board some West India ships ; and Turkish sherbet amongst the merchants.

“ Manufactures of cloth, that will keep out rain ; flanel, knives, locks and keys ; scabbards for swords ; several things wrought in steel, as little boxes, heads for canes, boots, riding-whips, Rippon spurs, saddles, &c.

“ At Nottingham dwells a man who makes fans, hatbands,



necklaces, and other things of glass, drawn out into very small threads."

Locke arrived in London from the Continent on the 8th of May, as has been before mentioned. He had perhaps prolonged intentionally his residence at Paris, to avoid witnessing the folly and fury of his friends in England on the subject of the Popish Plot. It is indeed very probable that the two following reflections in his Journal, which he wrote whilst at Paris, were suggested by the state, I will not say of public opinion, but of public fury in England. His words are "where power and not the good exercise of it give reputation, all the injustice, falsehood, violence, and oppression that attains that, (power) goes for wisdom and ability;" and again, "religions are upheld and factions maintained, and the shame of being disesteemed by those with whom one hath lived, and to whom one would recommend oneself, is the great source and direction of most of the actions of men."

On his return to England, this observation is found in his Journal.

"JUNE 17th 1679. OPINION. A thinking and considerate man cannot believe any thing with a firmer assent than is due to the evidence and validity of those reasons on which it is founded; yet the greatest part of men not examining the probability of things in their own nature, nor the testimony of those who are their vouchers, take the common belief or opinion of those of their country, neighbourhood, or party, to be proof enough, and so believe, as well as live by fashion and example; and these men are zealous Turks as well as Christians." It is evident from these notes, that the writer partook not of the popular phrensy which had so long prevailed in England, and had not as yet entirely subsided.

The same asthmatic complaint which had induced him to leave England in 1675, was now an obstacle to any long-continued residence in London, and obliged him to pass the winter season for the most part, either at Oxford or in the West. This absence must have been a subject of regret, since Shaftesbury, who had recalled

him from France, was now either in power, or deeply engaged in the politics of that eventful period.

The events of Locke's life henceforward became so much connected with the history of the time, that it will be necessary to give a short outline of the political transactions which ended in the triumph of the Court, and enabled Charles II. to trample on the liberties of his country.

The Parliament which had originally been chosen in 1661, that pensioned Parliament as it was called, that obedient and subservient Parliament as it certainly was, beginning at last to manifest distrust of the King, was after a long life dissolved in December 1678, and the next Parliament, which met in March, 1679, proving equally unmanageable, the King determined by the advice of Temple, to call some of the popular leaders to his Council, of which Shaftesbury was made President. It did not escape the penetration of that great politician, that he never possessed more than the appearance of Court favour. He resolved, therefore, although in the King's cabinet, to adhere to the popular party by strongly supporting the Bills for the exclusion of the Duke of York, or those for the limitation of his power, which were frequently urged forward by the popular leaders in Parliament. He was also mainly instrumental in passing the Habeas Corpus Act, a measure particularly obnoxious to the Court.

A new Parliament having been chosen, the King, who with all the Tory party, looked with great apprehension to the expected meeting, determined by his own act without the concurrence of his Council, *proprio motu*, to prevent its assembling by a prorogation. He knew well, that he should be opposed by the popular leaders whom he had admitted to his Council, and therefore decided without their advice. Upon this, Lord Russell resigned in disgust, and Shaftesbury quitted his office of President of the Council.

After dissolutions, and new Parliaments in rapid succession, the Parliament which was summoned to meet at Oxford 1680, was the last that was allowed to assemble in the reign of Charles II. The country party had a decided majority in the election of the members

of that House of Commons; and even in the county of Oxford it seems that all the four candidates were on that side. The chief difficulty therefore, for the leaders of the country party, was a proper choice of friends, as appears by a letter from Shaftesbury to Locke on the subject of the elections.

“ MR. LOCKE,

Feb. 19th, 1681.

“ I AM extremely obliged to you, and so are all the rest of the Lords, for the trouble we have put you to. This bearer comes from us all, to take possession of our allotments in Baliol College, and to provide things necessary. He is ordered in the first place, to address himself to you.

“ We are told here, that you have four very worthy men stand for Knights of the county of Oxford. 'Tis unhappy that we should make trouble and expense amongst ourselves; the two last Knights were very worthy men, and therefore 'tis much wished here, that you or some other worthy person, would persuade Sir Philip Harcourt and Sir John Norris to sit down. Those that deserved well in the last Parliament ought in right to have the preference; and at this rate of Parliaments, I wish all our friends have not more than time enough to be weary. I shall trouble you no further at present.

“ I am your most affectionate friend and servant,

SHAFTESBURY.”

If the only difficulty which the country party at that time had, was to make the best selection of members most friendly to their cause; if the temper of the Commons was generally adverse to the Court, and there is no reason to doubt that it was so, since the Exclusion Bill, and all the other obnoxious measures were pressed on in Parliament with much activity,—the triumph which the King gained in the course of the next two years after the dissolution of the Oxford Parliament is the more extraordinary. He had, we know, the powerful assistance of the Church, acting in perfect union zealously to enforce and firmly to establish in practice the slavish principles contained in their famous manifesto of passive obedience and non-resistance. Then began the campaign of judicial murders, which continued without remorse or pity to the end of the reign of



Charles II. Argyle, Russell, and Sidney, fell martyrs to the vindictive spirit of the Court. Shaftesbury was indicted of high treason, but was saved by a verdict of *ignoramus* given by the Grand Jury. He was indebted for his escape much more to the contrivance of his friends than to the fairness of a Court of Justice. Hume, who cannot be supposed to be favourable to him, says, "that as far as swearing could go, the treason was clearly proved against Shaftesbury; or rather so clearly as to merit no kind of credit or attention. That veteran leader of a party, inured from his youth to faction and intrigue, to cabals and conspiracies, was represented as opening without reserve, his treasonable intentions to these obscure banditti, and throwing out such violent and outrageous reproaches upon the King, as none but men of low education like themselves could be supposed to employ."

This was the last defeat which the Court sustained: the sheriffs, after this time, were appointed by the Crown, the juries packed, and writs of *Quo Warranto* issued against the corporations throughout England. As it was evidently unsafe for any person, who had incurred the displeasure of the court, to remain within its power, Shaftesbury\* made his retreat to Holland at the end of the year 1682. Locke, who had so long been connected with him, and had been so much trusted by him, thought it more prudent to take refuge also in Holland about the end of August 1683.

Lord Russell had already been executed, and as preparations were at that very time making for the trial, or what is the same thing, the execution of Sidney, it was evident that no person, who had been connected with Shaftesbury and that party, however innocent he might be, could consider himself safe, so long as he remained within the reach of a vindictive Court, whose will was law, and whose judges were often its degraded advocates, and always the instruments of its vengeance.

Nothing perhaps can more clearly prove the unscrupulous atro-

\* Shaftesbury died shortly after his arrival in Holland, and was buried at St. Giles's, in Dorsetshire, Feb. 26, 1683, where Locke attended the funeral of his patron and his friend.

city and violence of those unhappy times, than the form of Prayer, or rather of commination against the country party, ordered by the King's proclamation to be read, together with his declaration, in all the churches on the 9th of September, 1683. It is indeed lamentable to observe that the Church of England then made herself the willing handmaid of a bloody Government, exciting the passions of the congregations, and through them inflaming the juries before the trials of all the accused were finished.† The following composition may be presumed to be the pious production of the heads of our Church at that time, though from its tone and spirit, it should seem rather to have proceeded from the mouth of the Mufti and the Ulema than from the Bishops and rulers of the Christian Church of England.

The Prayer is taken from the authorised copy printed by the King's printer.

“His Majestie's Declaration to all his loveing subjects concerning the treasonable conspiracy against his sacred person and government, appointed to be read in all churches.

“CHARLES REX.—It has been our observation that for several years last past a malevolent party has made it their business to promote sedition by libellous pamphlets, and other wicked arts, to render our government odious, &c. &c.

“But it pleased God to open the eyes of our good subjects, &c. &c.

\* \* \* \* \*

And convince the common people of the villainous designs of their factious leaders, &c.”

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† After the commitment of Lord Russell and Algernon Sydney, Hampden, the grandson of the great Hampden, was by the Council committed also to the Tower, charged with high treason; but as only one witness, Lord Howard, could be procured to appear against him, he was arraigned on a charge of misdemeanor, on the 28th of November, 1684, and grievously fined. He was afterwards tried for high treason, that is tried a second time for the same offence, when the Court had procured the other witness Lord Grey.

Sir Thomas Armstrong was murdered by form of law in June, 1684. Lord Melven, Sir J. Cochrane, Robert Ferguson, and thirteen or fourteen others were named in the King's Declaration as having escaped from justice, all charged with the same treason as Russell and Sydney.

Then, after reciting the preparations and design of shooting into the coach where “our Royal Person and our dearest Brother were, and that such was the abundant mercy of Almighty God, that a discovery was made unto us on the 12th of July last, we have used the best means we could for the detection and prevention of so hellish a conspiracy: but it so happened that divers having notice of warrants issued for their apprehension have fled from justice, Sir Thomas Armstrong, &c. &c.; others have been taken, some of whom, the Lord William Russell, Thomas Walcot, William Hone, and John Rouse, have, upon their trials, been convicted, attainted, and executed, according to law. This we thought fit to make known to our loving subjects, that they being sensible (as we are) of the mercy of God in the great deliverance, may cheerfully and devoutly joyn with us in returning solemn thanks to Almighty God for the same. We do appoint the 9th day of September next to be observed as a day of thanksgiving, &c., in a form of prayer, which we have commanded to be prepared by our Bishops, and published for that purpose.—*At Court of Whitehall, 27th July, 1683.*

“A FORM OF PRAYER, &c. to be solemnly observed in all Churches, in due acknowledgment of God’s wonderful providence and mercy in discovering and defeating the late treasonable conspiracy against his Majesty’s person and government,” then after Exhortation, Psalms, &c.

“Almighty God and Heavenly Father, who of thine unspeakable goodness towards us hast, in a most extraordinary manner, discovered the designs and disappointed the attempts of those traitorous, heady, and high-minded men, who, under the pretence of religion, and thy most holy name, had contrived and resolved our destruction; as we do this day most heartily and devoutly adore and magnify thy glorious name for this thine infinite gracious goodness already vouchsafed to us, so we most humbly implore the continuance of thy grace and favour for the farther and clearer discovery of these depths of Satan, this mystery of iniquity. Send forth thy light and thy truth, and make known the hidden things of darkness; infatuate and de-



feat all the secret counsels of the ungodly, abate their pride, assuage their malice, and confound their devices : strengthen the hands of our gracious King Charles, and all that are put in authority under him, with judgment and justice to cut off all such workers of iniquity, as turn religion into rebellion, and faith into faction, that they may never prevail against us, or triumph in the ruin of thy Church amongst us. To this end protect and defend our sovereign Lord the King, and the whole Royal Family, from all treasons and conspiracies. Bind up his soul in the bundle of life, and let no weapon formed against him prosper : be unto him a helmet of salvation, and a strong tower of defence, against the face of his enemies : let his reign be prosperous, and his days many : make him glad now according to the time wherein thou hast afflicted him, and for the years wherein he has suffered adversity : as thou hast given him the necks of his enemies, so give him also every day more and more the hearts of his subjects. As for those that are implacable, clothe them with shame ; but upon himself and his posterity let the crown for ever flourish : so we that are thy people, and the sheep of thy pasture, shall give thee thanks for ever, and will always be showing forth thy praise from generation to generation, through Jesus Christ our only Saviour and Redeemer. Amen."

" Almighty God, who hast in all ages showed forth thy power and mercy in the miraculous and gracious deliverance of thy Church, and in the protection of righteous and religious Kings, and States professing thy holy and eternal truth, from the malicious conspiracies and wicked practices of all their enemies, we yield unto thee, from the very bottom of our hearts, unfeigned thanks and praise for the late signal and wonderful deliverance of our most gracious Sovereign, his Royal Brother, and loyal subjects of all orders and degrees, by the fanatic rage and treachery of wicked and ungodly men appointed as sheep to the slaughter, in a most barbarous and savage manner. From their unnatural and hellish conspiracy, not our merit but thy mercy, not our foresight but thy providence, not our own arm but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of

thy countenance, hath rescued and delivered us, even because thou hast a favour unto us : and, therefore, not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name, be ascribed all honour, glory, and praise, with most humble and hearty thanks in all Churches of the Saints ; even so, blessed be the Lord our God, who only doeth wondrous things, and blessed be the name of his Majesty for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour. Amen.”

“ O God, whose providence neglects not the meanest of thy creatures, but is most illustriously visible in watching over the persons of Kings, the great instruments of thy goodness to mankind, we give thee most hearty thanks and praises, as for the many wonderful deliverances formerly vouchsafed to thy servant, our dread sovereign, through the whole course of his life ; so especially for the late miracle of thy mercy, whereby thou didst rescue him and us all from those bloody designs, which nothing but thine infinite wisdom and power could have discovered and defeated. For this thy great goodness (notwithstanding our great unworthiness and many provocations) so graciously continued to us, we praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory : humbly beseeching thee that our present sense of this thy favour, and the fervent affections now kindled in our hearts thereby, may never cool, or sink down into forgetfulness or ingratitude ; but may produce in every one of us firm resolutions of future thankfulness and obedience, with a suitable constant perseverance in the same. Let us never forget, how often, and how wonderfully thou hast preserved thine anointed and his people : that being all duly sensible of our absolute dependence upon thee, we may endeavour to answer the blessed ends of this thy good providence over us. Continue him a nursing father to this thy church, and thy minister for good to all his people ; and let us and all his subjects look upon him henceforth not only as the ordinance but as the gift of God, promising and performing in thee and for thee, all faithful duty and loyalty to him and his heirs after him : with a religious obedience and thankfulness unto thee, for these and all

other thy mercies, through Jesus Christ thy son our Lord : to whom with thee, O Father, and God the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory."

In the evening service, this additional prayer for our enemies :

" Father of mercies and lover of souls, who art kind to the unthankful and to the evil, and hast commanded us also to extend our charity even to those that hate us, and despitefully use us : we beseech thee as to accept our prayers and praises, which we have this day offered up unto thee in behalf of all that are faithful and loyal in the land ; so also to enlarge thy mercy and pity, even to those that are our enemies. O most wise and powerful Lord God, in whose hands are the hearts of all men, as the rivers of water to turn them whithersoever thou wilt ; work mightily upon the minds of all parties amongst us. Turn the hearts of the children to the fathers, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just ; and so make them a ready people prepared for the Lord. Thou that sit-teth between the cherubim be the earth never so unquiet, thou that stilleth the raging of the sea, and the noise of his waves, and the madness of the people : stir up thy strength and come and help us ; let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end. Take away his ungodliness and thou shalt find none : let the fierceness of man turn to thy praise, and the remainder of wrath do thou restrain. To this end take from them all their prejudices and all their passions ; their confident mistakes, their carnal ends, and their secular interests. Open the blind eyes that they may see (at least in this their day) the things which belong to their peace, and wisely considering thy work, may say, This hath God done ; and so hear, and fear, and do no more wickedly. Soften the most obdurate hearts into a meek and humble, and docile temper, that they may no longer resist the truth. Bow down the stiff neck and the iron sinew to the gentle and easy yoke of thy most holy law ! take away the brass and the whore's forehead, and make their faces ashamed, that they may seek thy name. Redouble, O Lord, the joys of this day, that we may not



only triumph in the disappointment of their wicked imaginations, but with thy holy angels rejoice in their conversion. ·Amen !!!”

The following paper conceived in the same or even in a worse spirit, may be considered to be the echo of the royal declaration.

## DEVON SESSION.

“ Ad General. Quarterial. Session. Pacis Dom. Regis ten't. apud Castr. Exon. in et pro Comitatu præd. secundo die Octobris, Anno Regni Dom. nostri Caroli Secundi Dei gratiâ Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ Regis, Fidei Defensor, &c. tricesimo quinto, Annoque Dom. 1683.

“ We have been so abundantly convinced of the seditious and rebellious practices of the sectaries and fanatics, who through the course of above one hundred years, since we were first infested with 'em, have scarce afforded this unhappy kingdom any interval of rest from their horrid treasons, as that we must esteem 'em, not only the open enemies of our established Government, but to all the common principles of society and humanity itself. Wherefore that we may prevent their horrid conspiracies for the time to come, and secure (as much as in us lies) our most gracious King and the Government from the fury and malice of 'em, we resolve to put the severest of the laws (which we find too easie and gentle, unless enlivened by a vigorous execution) in force against 'em.

“ 1. We agree and resolve, in every division of this county, to require sufficient sureties for the good bearing and peaceable behaviour of all such as we may justly suspect, or that we can receive any credible information against, that they have been at any conventicles and unlawful meetings, or at any factious or seditious clubs; or that have, by any discourses, discovered themselves to be disaffected to the present established government, either in church or state; or that have been the authors or publishers of any seditious libels; or that shall not, in all things, duly conform themselves to the present established government.

“ 2. Because we have a sort of false men, and more perfidious than professed phanatiques, who either wanting courage to appear in their own shape, or the better to bring about their treasonable designs, privately associate with and encourage the seditious clubs of the sectaries, and with them

plot heartily against the Government ; and yet that they may pass unsuspected, sometimes appear in the church with a false show of conformity, only to save their money, and the better to serve their faction : that we may, if possible, distinguish and know all such dangerous enemies, we will strictly require all the churchwardens and constables, at all our monthly meetings, to give us a full account of all such as do not, every Sunday, resort to their own parish churches, and are not at the beginning of divine service, and do not behave themselves orderly and soberly there, observing all such decent ceremonies as the laws enjoyn : and that they likewise present unto us the names of all such as have not received the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in their own parish churches thrice a year.

“ 3. Being fully satisfied, as well by the clear evidence of the late horrid plot as by our own long and sad experience, that the Nonconformist preachers are the authors and fomenters of this pestilent faction, and the implacable enemies of the established Government, and to whom the late execrable treasons, which have had such dismal effects in this kingdom, are principally to be imputed, and who by their present obstinate refusing to take and subscribe an oath and declaration, That they do not hold it lawful to take up arms against the king, and that they will not endeavour any alteration of government, either in church or state ; do necessarily enforce us to conclude that they are still ready to engage themselves (if not actually engaged) in some rebellious conspiracy against the King, and to invade and subvert his government : wherefore we resolve, in every parish of this county to leave strict warrants in the hands of all constables for the seizing of such persons. And as an encouragement to all officers and others that shall be instrumental in the apprehending of any of them, so as they may be brought to justice, we will give and allow forty shillings, as a reward, for every Nonconformist preacher that shall be so secured. And we resolve to prosecute them, and all other such dangerous enemies of the government, and common absenters from church and frequenters of conventicles, according to the directions of a law made in the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, intituled An Act for the Keeping her Majesties Subjects in due obedience.\*

\* By this act any person above the age of sixteen, who shall obstinately refuse to repair to some church, or any person who shall persuade any other person to forbear or abstain from coming to church, or be present at any conventicle, shall be committed to prison, and remain there until they conform ; and unless they conform within three months, shall abjure the realm, or be adjudged a felon.

“ Lastly. That we may never forget the infinite mercies of Almighty God in the late wonderful deliverance of our gracious king and his dearest brother, and all his loyal subjects, (who were designed for a massacre) from the horrid conspiracy of the phanatiques and their accomplices ; and that we may perpetuate as well our own thankfulness as their infamy, that the generations to come may know their treachery, and avoid and never trust men of such principles more ; and also that we ourselves may perform our publick duty to Almighty God before we enter upon the publick service of our country ; we order, resolve, and agree, with the advice and concurrence of the Right Reverend Father in God, our much honoured and worthy Lord Bishop, to give and bestow, for the beautifying of the chappel in the castle of Exon, and for the erecting of decent seats there, ten pounds. And we will likewise give and continue six pounds, to be paid yearly to any one of the church of Exon, whom the said Lord Bishop shall appoint to read the divine service, with the prayers lately appointed for the day of Thanksgiving on the ninth of September last, and to preach a sermon, exhorting to obedience in the said chappel, on the first day of every general quarter sessions of the peace, held in the said castle, to begin precisely at eight of the clock in the morning. And may the mercies of Heaven, which are infinite, always protect our religious and gracious king, his dearest brother, and every branch of that royal family ; and may all the treasonable conspiracies of those rebellious schismatics be always thus happily prevented.

“ That the continued care of his Majesties justices of the peace for the county of Devon, for the safety of his Majesties sacred person, the preservation of the publick peace, and advancement of true religion, may be fuller known and have a better effect, I do hereby order and require all the clergy of my diocess within the county of Devon, deliberately to publish this order the next Sunday after it shall be tendred to them.\*

THO. EXON.

Hugo Vaughan, Cler. Pacis Com. Præd.”

In 1684, Locke was by an illegal order of the King deprived of his studentship at Christ-church. The account given in Mr. Fox’s history is as follows :—

“ Among the oppressions of this period, most of which were

\* If such principles were generally prevalent, the Letters on Toleration were indeed necessary.



attended with consequences so much more important to the several objects of persecution, it may seem scarcely worth while to notice the expulsion of J. Locke from Christ-church College, Oxford. But besides the interest which every incident in the life of a person so deservedly eminent naturally excites, there appears to have been something in the transaction itself characteristic of the spirit of the times, as well as of the general nature of absolute power. Mr. Locke was known to have been intimately connected with Lord Shaftesbury, and had very prudently judged it advisable for him to prolong for some time his residence upon the Continent, to which he had resorted originally on account of his health. A suspicion, as it has been since proved unfounded, that he was the author of a pamphlet which gave offence to the Government, induced the King to insist upon his removal from his studentship at Christ-church. Sunderland writes, by the King's command, to Dr. Fell, Bishop of Oxford, and Dean of Christ-church. The Reverend Prelate answers, that he has long had an eye upon Mr. Locke's behaviour; but though frequent attempts had been made (attempts of which the Bishop expresses no disapprobation) to draw him into imprudent conversation, by attacking in his company the reputation, and insulting the memory, of his late patron and friend, and thus to make his gratitude, and all the best feelings of his heart, instrumental to his ruin, these attempts all proved unsuccessful. Hence the Bishop infers not the innocence of Mr. Locke, but that he was a great master of concealment, both as to words and looks; for looks, it is to be supposed, would have furnished a pretext for his expulsion, more decent than any which had yet been discovered. An expedient is then suggested to drive Mr. Locke to a dilemma, by summoning him to attend the College on the 1st of January ensuing. If he do not appear, he shall be expelled for contumacy; if he come, matter of charge may be found against him, for what he shall have said at London, or elsewhere, where he will have been less upon his guard than at Oxford. Some have ascribed Fell's hesitation, if it can be so called, in executing the King's order, to his unwillingness to injure

Locke, who was his friend ; others, with more reason, to the doubt of the legality of the order. However this may have been, neither his scruples nor his reluctance was regarded by a Court which knew its own power. A peremptory order was accordingly sent, and immediate obedience ensued. Thus while, without the shadow of a crime, Mr. Locke lost a situation attended with some emolument and great convenience, was the University deprived of, or rather thus, from the base principles of servility, did she cast away, the man, the having produced whom is now her chiefest glory ; and thus to those who are not determined to be blind, did the true nature of absolute power discover itself, against which the middling station is not more secure than the most exalted. Tyranny, when glutted with the blood of the great, and the plunder of the rich, will condescend to hunt humbler game, and make the peaceable and innocent Fellow of a College the object of its persecution. In this instance, one would almost imagine there was some instinctive sagacity in the Government of that time, which pointed out to them, even before he had made himself known to the world, the man who was destined to be the most successful adversary of superstition and tyranny."

On a careful examination of the whole case, and with the light \* since thrown upon it, it appears that Locke was not expelled by the University of Oxford; he was deprived of his studentship by the Dean and Chapter of the College to which he belonged. If, however, we acquit the University of any direct share in the transaction, we may not unfairly conclude from the spirit and temper then prevalent at Oxford, that the University was accessory to that disgraceful deed. The famous Oxford decree, it must be remembered, had passed on the very day of the execution of Lord Russell. The divine rights of Kings, and the indiscriminate obedience of subjects, were the favourite tenets of the University, which, by a solemn decree, condemned as impious and heretical, the principles upon which the constitution of this, and of every free country, maintains itself. The deprivation of Locke was, strictly speaking, the act of the Dean and Chapter of

\* Oxford and Locke, by Lord Grenville.

Christ-church, courting, and almost anticipating, the illegal mandate of the Crown, and is not to be described as an actual expulsion from the University of Oxford.

It is true Lord Sunderland, in his letter to the Bishop of Oxford, and Dean of Christ-church, signifies the King's commands for the immediate expulsion of Mr. Locke, as one who had belonged to the Earl of Shaftesbury, and had behaved himself very factiously and undutifully towards the Government. The Bishop also, in his answer, uses the word expulsion, incorrectly certainly, but what better phrase could he have selected to flatter a despotic Court, which had determined to punish all whom it chose to consider as its enemies?

Correspondence between the Earl of Sunderland and the Bishop of Oxford respecting Mr. Locke.

TO THE LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD.

“ MY LORD,

Whitehall, Nov. 6, 1684.

“ The King being given to understand that one Mr. Locke, who belonged to the late Earl of Shaftesbury, and has upon several occasions behaved himself very factiously and undutifully to the Government, is a student of Christ-church; his Majesty commands me to signify to your Lordship, that he would have him removed from being a student, and that in order thereunto, your Lordship would let me know the method of doing it.

I am, my Lord, &c.

SUNDERLAND.”

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF SUNDERLAND, PRINCIPAL  
SECRETARY OF STATE.

“ RIGHT HON.

Nov. 8, 1684.

“ I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, wherein you are pleased to enquire concerning Mr. Locke's being a student of this house, of which I have this account to render; that he being, as your Lordship is truly informed, a person who was much trusted by the late Earl of Shaftesbury, and who is suspected to be ill-affected to the Government, I have for divers years had an eye upon him, but so close has his guard been on himself, that after several strict enquiries, I may confidently affirm there is not any one in the College, however familiar with him, who has heard him



speak a word either against, or so much as concerning the government ; and although very frequently, both in public and in private, discourses have been purposely introduced, to the disparagement of his master, the Earl of Shaftesbury, his party, and designs, he could never be provoked to take any notice, or discover in word or look the least concern ; so that I believe there is not in the world such a master of taciturnity and passion. He has here a physician's place, which frees him from the exercise of the college, and the obligation which others have to residence in it, and he is now abroad upon want of health, but notwithstanding that, I have summoned him to return home, which is done with this prospect, that if he comes not back, he will be liable to expulsion for contumacy ; if he does, he will be answerable to your Lordship for what he shall be found to have done amiss ; it being probable that though he may have been thus cautious here, where he knew himself to be suspected, he has laid himself more open in London, where a general liberty of speaking was used, and where the execrable designs against his Majesty, and his Government, were managed and pursued. If he does not return by the 1st day of January next, which is the time limited to him, I shall be enabled of course to proceed against him to expulsion. But if this method seem not effectual or speedy enough, and his Majesty, our founder and visitor, shall please to command his immediate remove, upon the receipt thereof, directed to the Dean and Chapter, it shall accordingly be executed by

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant,  
 J. OXON."

TO THE BISHOP OF OXFORD.

" MY LORD,

Whitehall, Nov. 10, 1684.

" HAVING communicated your Lordship's of the 8th to his Majesty, he has thought fit to direct me to send you the enclosed, concerning his commands for the immediate expulsion of Mr. Locke.

SUNDERLAND."

" TO THE RIGHT REVEREND FATHER IN GOD, JOHN LORD BISHOP OF OXON, DEAN OF CHRIST-CHURCH, AND OUR TRUSTY AND WELL-BELOVED THE CHAPTER THERE.

" Right Reverend Father in God, and trusty and well-beloved, we greet you well. Whereas we have received information of the factious and dis-

loyal behaviour of Locke, one of the students of that our College; we have thought fit hereby to signify our will and pleasure to you, that you forthwith remove him from his student's place, and deprive him of all the rights and advantages thereunto belonging, for which this shall be your warrant; and so we bid you heartily farewell. Given at our Court at Whitehall, 11th day of November, 1684.

By his Majesty's Command,  
SUNDERLAND."

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF SUNDERLAND, PRINCIPAL  
SECRETARY OF STATE.

"RIGHT HON.

November 16, 1684.

"I hold myself bound in duty to signify to your Lordship, that his Majesty's command for the expulsion of Mr. Locke from the College, is fully executed.

J. OXON."

TO THE BISHOP OF OXON.

"MY LORD,

"I have your Lordship's of the 16th, and have acquainted his Majesty therewith, who is well satisfied with the College's ready obedience to his commands for the expulsion of Mr. Locke.

SUNDERLAND."

The meanness of Fell's (the Bishop of Oxford) conduct was certainly never exceeded, seeing by his own unblushing confession, that he had been instrumental in laying snares for the destruction of one who was a member of his own college, and to whom he stood therefore in the relation of a father; and of one with whom he had lived in habits of friendship during the time of his prosperity, as a proof of which one or two amongst many letters from the same hand, and in the same phrases of friendship, are here inserted.

TO HIS ESTEEMED FRIEND MR. JOHN LOCKE, AT THANET HOUSE, IN  
ALDERSGATE STREET.

"SIR,

June 1, 1680.

"YOU are not to excuse your address by letter as if it could give a trouble to me; I assure you I have that respect and friendship for you,

that I should have been glad to have heard from you, although you had no other business than to let me know you were in health, especially since you left this place in such a condition as might make your friends apprehensive for you. As to the proposal concerning books, we have two years since quit our hands of our stock to men of trade, so that the interest is now with those we dealt with. I have spoke this morning with one of them, Mr. Pitt, who within few days will be in London, and will there attend upon you; he seems to approve of the terms offered, so that I presume he will close with them. I have no more to add at present, but desire that when you write to Monsieur Justell, you would represent the esteem I have for him. Let me also desire you to be assured that I am your

Affectionate friend,

JOHN OXON."

FROM THE SAME AFFECTIONATE FRIEND OF AN EARLIER DATE,  
INDORSED 1675.

" SIR,

Nov. 8.

" I am sorry for the occasion of your voyage, but wish you success in it, and by no means expect you should add to it, by a journey hither upon the score of ceremony. It is that which I by no means expect from my friends, and I hope the rest of the Chapter are of the same mind. When we have occasion to meet next, I shall propose your concern to the company, and with my affectionate remembrances, remain, Sir,

Your assured friend and servant,

J. FELL."

And many others letters directed to the worthily esteemed John  
Locke, Esq. at Thanet House, in Aldersgate Street.

Of the illegality of the proceeding there can now be no doubt; the visitatorial power of the Crown can only be executed by the Lord Chancellor; and the King, like every other visitor, is bound, before he pronounces sentence against any party, to hear him, or at least to cite him, and give him an opportunity of being heard. It is but fair, however, to add, that, at the time of the transaction alluded to, the rights and powers of visitors were much more loose and unsettled than at present. The leading decision on the visitatorial power (the Exeter College case) took place many years afterwards, and the



necessity of a visitor's acting strictly and properly, in that capacity, was not finally established before the case of the King and the Bishop of Ely.

Resistance was, however, made even at Oxford a few years later, but it was at a time when the rights and privileges, not of an obnoxious individual, but of the whole ecclesiastical order were attacked ; at a time when the blind despot, then on the throne, fortunately aimed his blows, not only against the liberties of his country, but against the Church itself, and broke the terms of the secret articles, offensive and defensive, so well understood at all other times between the parties concerned, which are inferred in the union of Church and State.

When I say it was fortunate that James II. aimed his blows against the Church, which secured her assistance in the work of the Revolution, I by no means express an opinion that the gentlemen of England were so dead to all feelings of patriotism, that they would have surrendered their liberties for ever without a struggle. That country which, in the preceding age, had produced a Hampden, a Pym, a Coke, and a Hutchinson, would doubtless have burst asunder the bonds of tyranny, even without the assistance of the Established Church, although the effort might have cost a second civil war.

The persecution which had driven Locke from his country, the tyranny which had illegally deprived him of his situation at Oxford, did not cease after his retreat to Holland ; the King's minister at the Hague demanded amongst several others named in his memorial, that Locke should be delivered up, describing him as secretary to the late Earl of Shaftesbury, a state crime worthy of such extraordinary interposition.

Memoire présenté par Monsieur Schelton, Envoyé Extraordinaire de sa Majesté de la Grande Bretagne à Messieurs les Etats Generaux hauts et puissants Seigneurs.

Vos Seigneuries ayant fait scavoir il y a trois jours au sousigné Envoyé

Extraordinaire de sa Majesté le Roi de la Grande Bretagne, la résolution qu'elles avoyent prise de bannir tous les sujets rebelles du Roi son maitre des terres de leur domination, sur les représentations que sa Majesté avait faites aux Ambassadeurs de cet Estat, le susdit Envoyé Extraordinaire auroit eu lieu de se contenter en partie des esgards que vos Seigneuries avoyent témoigné pour sa Majesté en cette rencontre s'il n'en eut reçu des ordres exprès de représenter à vos Seigneuries qu'elle apprend avec un très sensible déplaisir que tant de ses sujets rebelles (dont les noms sont si dessous spécifiés) se sont réfugiés dans les provinces de vostre obeissance, lesquels se sont attiré sa juste indignation et colère, en ce que contre la foy et l'obéissance qu'ils doivent à leur souverain, ils ont conspiré contre la vie de sa sacrée personne, contre le gouvernement dont le bouleversement à fait depuis assez long temps le but de leurs dessins, et qu'ils ne se lassent de former tous les jours de nouveaux projets de trahison et d'infamie, et de déchirer la renommée et la gloire de sa Majesté par toutes sortes de papiers diffamatoires qu'ils font imprimer et distribuer en ces pays. Or sa Majesté voyant le danger auquel sa sacrée personne est exposée, tant que ces traitres et fils dénaturés de leur patrie trouvent un azile dans les provinces de vos Seigneuries, où ces scelerats par la grande facilité continuent à correspondre avec ceux de leur party en Angleterre et en Ecosse, et à s'assembler et consulter sur la destruction du repos et de la prospérité des royaumes de sa Majesté, elle se persuade que vos Seigneuries non seulement les en chasseront, mais aussi les saisiront et enverront en Angleterre conformément à leur propre déclaration faite sur ce sujet. Et certes, il semble que l'amitié, que de droit et d'intérêt de bons voisins doivent les uns aux autres ne le demande pas seulement, mais il y a des raisons bien plus fortes à scavoir des traités entre sa Majesté et cet estat qui luy donnent ces prétentions outre que la prospérité de leur estat à laquelle sa Majesté prend tant de part depend de celle des affaires du Roi. Et c'est pourquoi le susdit Envoyé Extraordinaire d'Angleterre croit que vos Seigneuries voudront d'abord donner les mains à cette saisie et bannissement d'autant plus qu'elles dans l'extract de leur résolution de Mardy le 15 de May, de l'année présente, veulent bien donner les assurances de concourir en tout ce que dependra d'elles pour le maintien des traités et de la bonne intelligence entre sa Majesté et cet estat. Fait à la Haye à 17 May, 1685.

(Signé) B. SCHELTON.

Then follows a list of the proscribed, including Locke.

He was therefore under the necessity of living very much concealed, and of going out only at night, in order to avoid observation. His occupations, however, were such as could not have given offence to the most jealous Government; and he had actually, at one time, (as says Le Clerc) removed from Amsterdam to Utrecht, to avoid the possible suspicion of being connected with Monmouth, or of abetting his expedition, having no good opinion either of the leader or of his undertaking. He certainly left Amsterdam on the 16th of April, 1685, and remained at Utrecht till the 23d of May following, which last date coincides exactly, I believe, with the Duke of Monmouth's departure from the Texel. It was during this secluded residence with M. Veen in 1685 that his Letter on Toleration was finished.

The subject had many years before engaged his attention, as I find a long article on Toleration in his Common Place Book, dated 1667, containing his early thoughts on that most important of all questions, as he first committed them to writing. It concludes thus: "But to show the danger of establishing uniformity, to give a full prospect of this subject, there remain yet these following particulars to be handled:

1st. To show what influence Toleration is like to have upon the number and industry of your people.

2d. What force must compel all to an uniformity in England; to consider what party alone, or what parties, are likeliest to unite, to make a force able to compel the rest.

3d. To show that all that speak against Toleration, seem to suppose that severity and force are the only arts of government, and way to suppress any faction, which is a mistake.

4th. That for the most part the matters of controversy and distinction between sects are no parts, or very inconsiderable ones, and but appendages of true religion.

5th. To consider how it comes to pass that the Christian religion has made more factions, wars, and disturbances in civil societies



than any other, and whether Toleration and Latitudinism would not prevent those evils.

6th. The making the terms of church communion as large as may be, *i. e.* that your articles in speculative opinions be few and large, and ceremonies in worship few and easy, which is Latitudinism.

7. That the desiring and undertaking to prove several doctrines which are confessed to be incomprehensible, and to be no otherwise known but by revelation, and requiring men to assent to them in the forms proposed by the doctors of your several churches, must needs make a great many Atheists.

But of these when I have more leisure. *Sic cogitavit J. Locke, 1667.*

The letter on Toleration was first printed in Latin at Tergou. The title "*Epistola de Tolerantiâ ad Clarissimum virum T.A.R.P. T.O.L.A. Scripta a P.A.P.O. J.L.A.*" The first letters signify *Theologiæ apud Remonstrantes Professorem, Tyrannidis Osorem, Limburgiun Amstelodamensem*: and the last letters *Pacis Amico, Persecutionis Osore. Joanne Lockio Anglo.*" This, in some sort the most useful, because the most practical of all his works, was translated into English and printed in London after the Revolution, and frequently defended by its author from the repeated attacks of his adversaries.

William Penn, who enjoyed some degree of favour with James II. offered to obtain from the King the pardon of Locke, who nobly refused to accept a pardon, as being conscious of having committed no crime. The same office of friendship and assistance was also performed by the Earl of Pembroke, to whose honour the following letters deserve to be made known. The first relates probably to the proceedings at Oxford; the second to the promise of pardon obtained from James II.: to these, one of a later date from the same person is added, relating to the publication of the *Essay on Human Understanding*, which was dedicated to him.

“ SIR,

Nov. 1684.

“ You might very well expect that I, who have had so much satisfaction in the friendship I have so many years contracted with you, would be pleased at your design of coming hither this winter; but when I consider how prejudicial it may be to your health to leave that country, (which I have often heard has much increased it) I can’t but use my endeavours you should not remove till Spring. I was much surprised when I heard the reason of your coming so soon, but as soon comforted myself, when I considered how many men of good reputation, by being accused have had an advantage publicly to prove themselves honest men: certainly, I, who know your actions, should be to blame to give credit to others’ words. You may be assured, nothing shall hinder me from hazarding all I am worth, when it may be advantageous to such a friend. I perceive my great concern has made me say more than is needful, I will therefore subscribe myself

Your friend,

PEMBROKE.”

“ SIR,

London, Aug. 20, 1685.

“ I HAVE often writ to you with great satisfaction in hopes of an answer. You will easily, therefore, conclude, with how much more I write now, since it will be the occasion of enjoying your company here in England. I need not tell you that I have omitted no opportunity of contradicting all false reports to the King, and (as in so good a cause none can but succeed) I have so satisfied the King, that he has assured me he will never believe any ill reports of you. He bid me write to you to come over; I told him, I would then bring you to kiss his hand, and he was fully satisfied I should. Pray, for my sake, let me see you before the summer be over; I believe you will not mistrust me: I am sure, none can the King’s word. You having so many friends, lest you should mistake who I am, I must subscribe myself your friend

PEMBROKE.”

“ SIR,

London, Nov. 25, 1687.

“ I received the second part, and with it the names of all the rest in print; such thoughts need no epistle to recommend them. I do not say so to excuse my name to it, for I shall always be as desirous (by my name) to testify the satisfaction I have in any thing you are pleased to write, as I am

and ever will be (by my person) ready to vindicate any thing you do : but pray do not let the hopes of seeing this in print, defer the satisfaction of seeing the whole at large, which I hope you will send me as soon as possibly you can. A chain is not to be commended for its strength by taking it asunder ; I shall not, therefore, pretend to commend this, since I can't do it without repeating the whole ; but I will spare no pains where I may approve myself

Your friend

PEMBROKE."

At the back of this letter his friend Thomas writes :—" If I can be serviceable to you in any thing, I will see you though it be now winter ; if not, I will early in spring, and not wait for Musidore,\* because his occasions may delay me, if I wait to suit mine to his. He tells me Will. Penn hath moved the King for pardon for you, which was as readily granted. I said if you either wanted or desired it, you would move by your friend here, and you would write your own sense of it."

During his abode in Holland, he was often occupied in different scientific pursuits in company with M. Guenelon, the first physician at Amsterdam, with whom he had become acquainted some years before, whilst resident at Paris. He now formed a small society, which met weekly at each other's houses, to discuss such questions as by their rules had been proposed at a previous meeting. The society consisted of Limborch, Le Clerc, Guenelon, and a few others. He appears, indeed, on all occasions, to have been very much disposed to promote the formation of societies of that nature, having encouraged frequent meetings at his chambers whilst resident at Oxford, and also that weekly society which he afterwards promoted when settled for a few years in London, after his return to England in 1689.

It has been observed that he led a very retired and secluded life at Amsterdam, to avoid observation. His Journal at that time

\* Musidore, a name by which his other friend Tyrrell was designated, to avoid danger.



consists for the most part of references to the books he was reading ; there are sentences from Cicero, and many notes from books of travels, of which latter he was always very fond. A few extracts will show his manner of life and employment.

FEB. 14th. Montaigne, by a gentle kind of negligence, clothed in a peculiar sort of good language, persuades without reason : his Essays are a texture of strong sayings, sentences, and ends of verses, which he so puts together, that they have an extraordinary force upon men's minds. He reasons not, but diverts himself, and pleases others ; full of pride and vanity.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3rd. The ice here at Amsterdam, this having been the hardest winter in the memory of man, being cut on purpose to try its thickness, was one Amsterdam ell and one inch : an Amsterdam ell is three quarters of an English yard. This, Mr. Wilcock saw himself cut and measured, in a place cleared from snow in the Fluelle Burgwall by the old Kirk.

APRIL 14th. M. Bremen showed us at Dr. Sibilius's the way of making Thé, in use amongst the Japanese, where he lived eight years. He beat the yolks of eggs with sugar-candy in a basin, pouring on them the hot infusion of Thé by degrees, always stirring it.

\* \* \* \* \*

MAY 12th. From Amsterdam to Haarlem two and a-half hours. There I saw a mill for weaving of incle or ribbon, where a man with the easy motion of one hand, would weave at once thirty pieces of incle. Between Haarlem and Heemsted they bleach much linen.

SUNDAY, JULY 30th. The Armenian priest going to say the service, was habited in a cap without brims, on the top of which stood a cross. His dress a white silk cope, on which, behind, was a large red satin cross, a great high collar, the collar standing at a distance from the neck, and reaching half way up his head ; he had under this a surplice girt close about his middle with a girdle ; he was assisted by one in a surplice. He began with crossing and bowing ; after some few words, I suppose a prayer, he pulled off his cap and appeared shaved, more Romano. The species are

elevated before consecration both covered, after consecration separately, the priest keeping his face to the altar. Afterwards, the cup in his hand, and the wafer held over it, he turns about to the people, and holds it there. All this time the people on their knees beat their breasts, and say something. The priest breaks the wafer and soaks it in wine, and so takes it. After the service is done, the priest, holding the New Testament in his hand, descends from the altar, and so standing, with his face turned towards the people, they all come, one after the other, and kiss the cover of the book, which was of silver; and most of them also kiss the priest's hands, and then, by the assistant, have each of them a little bit given them of the same bread (but unconsecrated) that the wafer was made of, that was consecrated. In crossing, bowing, incense, and other things, they agree much with the Roman ceremonies, only they incense all present. They give not the cup to the laity, but only a wafer dipped in the wine. They admit to their communion all Christians, and hold it our duty to join in love and charity with those who differ in opinion.

AUG. 16th.—From Amsterdam to Alkmar, six hours. A pretty little town, very clean, but seems rather in a decaying than a thriving condition. The church large, built like a cathedral. The great merchandise of the town is cheese, which the pastures round about it furnish. About a league and a half is Egmont, the ancient seat of the Counts of Egmont.

17th.—To Horne, a large town on the Zuider Sea. From Horne to Enchuysen, three hours, the way all pitched with clinkers, and beset with Boors' houses almost as it were one street. The houses are of a pretty odd fashion; the barn joining to the dwelling-house making a part of it. Enchuysen has a fair East India House, the most handsome and stately of any thing in the town. Here I lay at the sign of the Golden Hen; in the same house, twenty-three years since, they say the King lay for a whole week together in a little room over the kitchen, in a cupboard-bed, about five feet long.

18th.—To Worcum, four leagues; the land is secured against the

sea for a mile by long piles driven in, a little inclining towards the bank, close one by another, each whereof cost, to be there so placed, a ducat. Thirty or forty lime-kilns; the lime all cockle-shells picked upon the sea strand, which, laying with turf, they burn to lime. The ordinary women went most bare-legged; but what most surprised me was to see them have woollen cloth stockings reaching down to the small of their legs, close laced, and yet bare-foot. To Balswert by sailing.

19th.—To Francker; it is a little fortified town, that one may walk round in half an hour; it has an university; the schools and library not extraordinary, which shows that knowledge depends not on the stateliness of the buildings, &c. &c. &c., since this university has produced many learned men, and has now some amongst its professors; the professors thirteen or fourteen—the scholars 300. They have the pictures of all their professors. A thing worthy imitation in other places is, that any one may take his degree here when he is fit, abilities, and not time, being only looked after: the fees are moderate. In Friesland they still use the old style. The land is generally better than in Holland; some worth thirty francs per morgen, but they say the taxes amount to one half the value.

21st.—To Leewaerden; to Wienwert. Here, in M. Somerdyke's house, is the church of the Labadists; they receive all ages, sexes, and degrees, upon approbation, after trial. They live all in common; and whoever is admitted is to give with himself all he has to Christ the Lord, *i. e.* the church, to be managed by officers appointed by the church. It is a fundamental miscarriage, and such as will deserve cutting off, to possess any thing in property. Their discipline, whereby they prevent and correct offences is, first, reprehension; secondly, suspension from sacrament; and if this makes no amendment, they cut him off from their body, &c. &c. &c. Baptism they administer only to grown people, who show themselves to be Christians by their lives, as well as professions, &c. &c. &c. They have been here these nine years, and, as they say, increase daily; but yet I could not learn their numbers: M. Yonn said 100, M.



Meuler, 80. They are very shy to give an account of themselves, particularly of their manner and rule of living and discipline ; and it was with much difficulty I got so much out of them ; for they seemed to expect that a man should come there disposed to desire and court admittance into their society, without inquiring into their ways ; and if the Lord, as they say, dispose him to it, and they see the signs of grace in him, they will proceed to give him farther instruction ; which signs of grace seem to me to be, at last, a perfect submission to the will and rules of their pastor, Mr. Yonn ; who, if I mistake not, has established to himself a perfect empire over them. For though their censures, and all their administration, be in appearance in their church, yet it is easy to perceive how at last it determines in him. He is *dominus factotum* ; and though I believe they are much separated from the world, and are, generally speaking, people of very good and exemplary lives, yet the tone of voice, manner, and fashion, of those I conversed with, seemed to make one suspect a little of Tartouf. Besides that, all their discourse carries with it a supposition of more purity in them than ordinary, and as if nobody was in the way to heaven but they ; not without a mixture of canting, in referring things immediately to the Lord, even on those occasions where one inquires after the rational means and measures of proceeding, as if they did all things by revelation. It was above two hours after I came before I could receive audience of Mr. Yonn, though recommended by a friend ; and how many offers soever I made towards it, I could not be admitted to see either their place of exercise, of eating, or any of their chambers, but was kept all the while I was there *in atrio gentium*, a little house without the gate ; for, as I said before, they seemed very shy of discovering the *secreta domûs*, which seemed to me not altogether so suitable to the pattern of Christianity.

24th.—By Leewaerden to Doccum. To Groningen, a large town, regularly fortified with seventeen bastions, the distance of each 470 steps. The taxes here are, for every chimney, 55s. per annum ; for every grown person, one ; boys at school, half so much ; besides

excise on beer, wine, bread, and every thing : French, or Rhenish wine, pay 36 per hogshead ; brandy, 78 ; and they pay so much a head for their cattle ; besides near one half the value of their lands for land-tax. Here is an university ; eight professors : their library a long gallery, two sides of a square.

25th.—Returned to Leewaerden the same way.

29th.—Henrie Casimir, Prince of Nassau, Governor and Captain-General of the provinces of Friesland and Groningen, having about eight months since married the Princess of Anhalt, made his public and solemn entry into Leewaerden, the capital city of Friesland, at the public charge of the States. The cavalcade and solemnity were suitable to the greatness of the government. That that I observed particular in it was, that when the Prince and his Princess, with their two mothers, and the Princess of Screwine and their two sisters, were alighted at his house, and had rested a little, he took the ladies with him down into the court, and there placing them in chairs just within the outward gate which stood open, he himself stood bare just without the gate, whilst all the burghers who were that day in arms, marched by and saluted him with firing their muskets as they passed. This lasted well nigh two hours, and after that they went to supper. Some of the gentlemen of the country, and some of the chief of his officers supped with him and the ladies, and here-upon a page said grace.

The Prince is about twenty-eight years old, little, and not very handsome ; but, as they say, a man of parts, loving, and well-beloved of his country. His lady is of a younger branch of the house of Hainault ; and her father at present a Marshal to the Duke of Brandenburg.

30th.—This evening the Prince and Princess were treated at supper by the Deputies of the States of the province, and entertained with fireworks.

31st.—And this day, to conclude the compliment, they are entertained at dinner by the States at the College, where the States used to keep their assembly.

SEPT. 3rd.—To Ens, Campertown, Groning, and Dewenter. Here are two Protestant nunneries ; one belongs to the freemen of the town, and their daughters only are admitted, these are fourteen ; they live all together in one house, the oldest, of course, is the abbess. They have each a little garden, and their dividend of the corn and some land which belongs to them, which amounts to three or four bushels of rye. Their meat and drink they provide for themselves, and dress it in a common kitchen in the summer, in the winter in their chambers. There was formerly, before the Reformation, a convent of Catholic nuns ; and when in the last war the Bishop of Munster was possessed of this town two years together, he put three Catholic maids into the nunnery, which remain there still, under the same rules as the others.

There is besides this, another nunnery in the town, only of the noblesse of the province ; they have each four hundred guilders per annum, one half whereof the abbess has for their board, the other half they have themselves to dispose of as they please. They have no particular habit, and are often at home with their friends in the country.

20th.—From Dewenter to Zutphen and Arnheim. In the mid-way is Deiren, where the Prince of Orange has a house, more considerable for the pleasant country about it, than for its largeness or beauty. Here I saw the camels which the Count of Waldek sent the Prince, taken amongst others in the rout of the Turks. The taller was near about seven feet high ; they were both males. They seemed creatures made for labour by their patience and submissiveness and small feeding ; these eat not so much as a horse. Their food hay, and a paste made of rye-meal ; upon bidding they lie down, resting on their sternum. From Deiren to Arnheim is a pleasant country ; the borders of their fields set with rows of oaks three or four deep, which makes it look like a country full of woods. The soil sandy and dry, but not unfruitful.

21st.—To Nimegen. The town is situated on a rise on the side of the Waal.



They showed some remains of an old Roman building. In their town-house are some ancient inscriptions found about the town.

23rd.—To Gorcum, Bomel, and Utrecht.

Oct. 10th.—Utrecht to Amsterdam.

15th.—To Haerlem—to Leyden.

23rd.—The young Gronovius, son of the famous Gronovius, made a solemn oration in the schools; his subject was the original of Romulus. At it were present the curators of the university, and the professors, solemnly ushered in by the university officers. The music, instrumental and vocal, began and concluded the scene. The harangue itself began with a magnificent and long compliment to the curators, and then something being said to the professor and scholars, he came to the main business, which was to show that Romulus was not an Italian born, but came from the East, and was of Palestine or thereabout. This, as I remember, was the design of his oration, which lasted almost two hours.

29th.—Sunday, to the French church. Here Joseph Scaliger lies buried, with a high eulogium on a table in the wall; he was honorary professor here.

Nov. 12th.—From Doctor Herman, who lived nine years in Zeylon, many particulars of diseases of that climate, &c. &c.

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The cinnamon grows large; the smell is peculiar to the bark, and in that too there is great difference, according to the temper the tree is in. They gather it in August and February, at which time the sap rises, and so makes it easy to separate the bark from the wood. They bark none but young trees, and those only on one side.

15th.—I saw Swammerdam's remains, being a great collection of anatomical preparations of several parts of animals, especially of human bodies. Amongst other things very remarkable is, the spiral valves in the rectum, and the circular in the ilium; in the ilium they reach not quite over the cavity of the gut, but are continued all round in circles, about half an inch or less asunder. In

the colon they are not continued round, but end in three seams, that are continued all along that gut, but the direction in them is more spiral than circular, and they stand at a greater distance than in the small gut. There were the parts of several guts, we knew not of what animals, that were perfectly spiral. The cæcum had visibly a valve opening outwards, and hindering the ingress of any matter into the cæcum, &c.

JUNE 22d, 1685.—I saw, at Mr. Lewenhoo's, several microscopical observations, which answer the description he has given of them, &c. &c. The exceeding small and regular fibres of the crystalline humour are wonderful, if all the works of Nature were not so. Speaking of some of the small animals which Lewenhoo mentioned that he had discovered, there is a very long description.

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It was with much difficulty I could perceive the tails he describes, if, at least, I did perceive any at all. The glasses we saw, he said, would magnify to a million of times, which I understood of cubical augmentation, which is but 100 in length; but the best of all his glasses, and those by which he describes his spermatic animals, we did not see, nor, as I hear, does he show them to any one.

24th.—To Amsterdam.

AUG. 28.—I saw a boor's house a mile or more from Amsterdam. The people and the cows live all in the same room in the winter, there being place for twenty-four cows on both sides, with a large space to pass between them in the middle, to which their heads are turned. The place they stand in is raised a little above the pavement. There runs a row of white marble paving fifteen or eighteen inches square, on which their meat was laid. At the upper end of the room was a partition of about breast-high of boards, which separated a square place, where the people lived. There were three pigeon-hole beds, after the Dutch fashion, and though this was but a part of the stable wherein the people and their beasts live together, yet the whole room, and every thing in it was much cleaner

than one shall see any kitchen, nay, most of the finest parlours in England.

OCT. 5.—Concerning the beginning of the Quakers, all I can learn from B. Furly is, that John Saltmarsh, who had been Fairfax's chaplain, and a member of the Church of England, was the first that began to be scrupulous of the hat, and using common language, in 1649. In 1650, Job Fox, a shoemaker, and Jas. Nailor, a sergeant in the army, in the North, began to publish the doctrines of the light.

MARCH 8, 1687.—Whether things, both moral and historical, writ, as other such matters are, by men liable to the same mistakes and frailties, may not yet be so ordered by Providence, as to be certain rules in future ages, and presignifications of future events, sufficient to guide those who are sincere inquirers after truth and right?

JUNE 1.—A boor, that lived about three miles from Rotterdam, had about thirty morgens of land, which would keep thirty cows. His land was worth, to be let, about seventeen shillings per annum per morgen, besides taxes, which were about seven or eight guilders per year more; whereof three, or thereabouts, to the State, the remainder four or five was for mills, sluices, and other charges of draining. A morgen of land, to be sold, is worth 700, for he had given 2,100 for three morgens, which he would now let for fifty, so that the lands sell for above thirty-five years purchase. One of these morgens, which is to be sold, being digged up, and the turf sold, will make 8,000s., whereof the State has 4,000 s. Making the turf, and other charges about them, will amount to 2,000 s. The tax which is to be still paid, after the turf is dug out, and the land lying under water, may be bought off for 225 s., (*Q.* whether this be the whole tax for mills and all?) so that by selling his land for the turf, a man does more than double his fee.

The vein of turf lies about two feet under the surface, and is about eight feet thick. Under it lies clay. The top of the vein now lies higher than the surface of the water, as it is in summer



time when lowest. The upper part of the vein yields the best turf, the under half is not so good. They cut it not with spades, but fish it all up from under the water with nets, and so lay it upon the neighbouring land of a certain thickness to dry, and when it is of a fit temper, they cut it into sizes fit for use. The turf never grows there again; at least as they observe: but sometimes, when a large tract of ground is by this means laid under water, they drain it, and so have their land again, for which they pay no taxes for thirty years after draining.

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WHILST Locke resided in Holland he kept up a regular correspondence with his friends in England, and appears to have been well informed of what was passing there. Some of these letters describe the state of affairs, and the particulars of the proceedings of James the Second's commissioners at Oxford, in the business of Magdalen College.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TYRREL TO LOCKE.

“ May 6th, 1687.

“ Your discourse about the liberty of conscience would not do amiss now, to dispose people's minds to pass it into law whenever the Parliament sits. The thing gives so general a satisfaction, that more are displeased at the manner of doing it, than at the thing itself. So that I find few but the high Church of England-men highly displeased; but let the intent of those that do it be as it will, I believe whatever the Church of England may lose, the Roman Catholic religion will not gain so much as they imagine; more being likely to go off to the fanatics than to them, amongst the ordinary people, who can neither expect offices nor pensions by the change: and if so, I think the Roman Catholic religion (as Osborne says) will only change herb John for Coloquintida. As for news, I have not much to send you, only to the great satisfaction of many, Judge Wilkins is put out; and one Sir Richard Allebone, a Roman Catholic of great integrity, as those say who know him, put in his room; and more such

changes are daily expected. The Vice Chancellor of Cambridge was suspended and deprived this day by the ecclesiastical Commissioners *ab officio et beneficio*, for refusing to propose and admit Father Francis, a Dominican friar, to the degree of Master of Arts in the University; the rest of the doctors who signed the University plea are to expect their doom, but what it will be we cannot yet tell. And now I am speaking of universities, I will give you a short account of the state of Oxford. In Christ-church, where there hath been a Roman Catholic head almost this half year, I cannot hear of one conversion amongst the students. The old Hall in cant quadrangle, formerly the Bishop's wood-house, is now fitting up for a chapel for the Dean. There are, notwithstanding Mr. W's. great endeavours to turn people, not above six or seven scholars beside himself, who have declared themselves Roman Catholics. Mr. W. prints books at his new press for his religion, but they have no very good success: one was answered as soon as it came out; the other, which is a kind of history of the Reformation, has a very slight reception among the learned, being no more than a translation of Gander's and Gretner's stories, which have been so long since confuted. I doubt not you have received Dr. Burnet's letters, which are a pattern how a man should travel, and what observations he should make. The book was forbid to be brought in, but it has since been printed here and sells infinitely. I forgot to tell you the head of Magdalen College in Oxford being dead, the King sent down a mandamus for one Mr. Farmer a new convert, a commoner of the House; but the Fellows refused to elect him, and have been so stout as to choose Mr. Hough, a chaplain of the Duke of Ormond, for their President. My Lord Sunderland has writ to them from the King about it; their answer was, that they could not choose Mr. F. with a safe conscience, being under an oath and having received the sacrament upon it, to choose none but a fit man, whereas this man was not so, being a person of ill-fame and debauched life.

## FROM TYRRELL TO LOCKE.

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Nov. 2nd.

"I have nothing else worth writing but a short account how things have gone lately at Magdalen College before the Commissioners whom the King sent down to visit the College; viz. the Bishop of Chester, the Lord Chief Justice Wright, and Baron Jenner. When they came, they sum-

moned the President and Fellows before them, and admonished the President to recede from the government of the house, which he refusing, they expelled him. Then they asked all the Fellows severally, whether they would admit the Bishop of Oxford to be their head? which all of them refusing except one Papist, they admitted him themselves by installing one of his chaplains, and giving him the oaths by proxy. Then they sent to Dr. Hough for the keys of the lodging, which he refusing to deliver, they sent for a smith and broke them open, and put the Bishop's proxy in possession; then they sent for all the Fellows again, and asked them whether they would submit to and obey the President whom the King had set over them, which Dr. F——, who was the first man asked, utterly refused, saying he neither would, nor could do it with a safe conscience. The rest of them signed a paper in which they promised to submit to the Bishop *in omnibus licitis et honestis*, according to the statutes of the house, which submission was taken, and they much commended for it. But Dr. F—— upon the third admonition still refusing, had his name struck out of the books, and was ordered to depart the College within fourteen days; against which proceedings as null and unjust, he read and gave in a protestation, as Dr. Hough had done before, both appealing to the King in his courts, &c. So there were no more expelled at present for denying their authority, than the President, Dr. F——, and the under porter. But on Friday morning upon receiving fresh instructions, the former submission not being looked upon as full enough, they were farther required to sign an address to the King, wherein they were to confess and beg pardon for their passed contumacy, and promise absolute obedience for the time to come; but instead of that when they came together, they made a quite other sort of address to the Commissioners, wherein they first assert that they are not conscious of having acted in any thing contrary to their oaths and the statutes of the house, and therefore hope that his Majesty will pardon them if they cannot render any more than a passive obedience to his Majesty's commands, since they cannot look upon the Bishop as their lawful head, or words to that effect: and desire the Commissioners to represent their case fairly to his Majesty. At which paper (being signed by all the Fellows except two, viz. Dr. Smyth and Charnock) they were very much displeased, and adjourned the court till the 20th instant, when it is to be feared they will come down again, and proceed very severely against all that signed that paper. This is the sum of what has been done; Dr. F—— is very cheer-



ful under it, and many commend his carriage as much more fair and above board than the rest, who meant the same thing, though they dared not speak it out. What will be the issue, God knows! but we fear the turning out the most of the Fellows. I fear I have tired you as much as I have myself.

Yours sincerely,  
M."

FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

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Feb. 20th, 1688.

"The aldermen and bailiffs in Oxford that were lately put in by the new charters, are all turned out, and Mr. P——, your old acquaintance, Alderman Wright, with several others, put in their places, though I hear the former refuses to act. Now if you would know the reason of all this, they say there will be a new Parliament in May, and in order to his Majesty's designs, it is fit the Corporation should undergo a new alteration, the former members growing weary, and not willing to drive out the whole stage, it was time the very Judases should be unharnessed and turned out to grass. Those that before were so ready in giving up their charters, now find the good effect of it, being the first that were turned out: *nec lex est justior ulla*; enough of politics, but wishing you all health and a happy meeting

Yours sincerely,  
M."

That happy accident, the Revolution of 1688, enabled Locke to return to his native country, and he arrived in the same fleet that brought the Princess of Orange to England. It was at this time that he stood forward as the most strenuous champion of those true principles of Government which assert, that the people are not to be considered as the property of their rulers, nor Monarchs as the Gods of the earth, according to the slavish doctrine of the divine and indefeasible right of Kings; but that the kingly office, and all other orders, privileges, and distinctions whatsoever, are held in trust for the benefit of the people, by whose consent they were appointed, and from whom they derive their delegated power.

It was almost immediately after his arrival in England that an offer was made to him by Lord Mordaunt, whom he had known in Holland, then one of King William's Ministers, and much trusted by him, as Burnet says, to be employed as Envoy at one of the great German Courts, probably either at Vienna or Berlin; an appointment which he modestly refused by the following letter, the copy of which is indorsed J. L. to Lord Mordaunt.

" MY LORD,

Whitehall, Feb. 21, 1689.

" I cannot but in the highest degree be sensible of the great honour his Majesty has done me in those gracious intentions towards me which I have understood from your Lordship; and it is the most touching displeasure I have ever received from that weak and broken constitution of my health which has so long threatened my life, that it now affords me not a body suitable to my mind in so desirable an occasion of serving his Majesty. I make account every Englishman is bound in conscience and gratitude not to content himself with a bare, slothful, and inactive loyalty, where his purse, his head, or his hand may be of any use to this our great deliverer. He has ventured and done too much for us to leave room for indifferency or backwardness in any one who would avoid the reproach and contempt of all mankind. And if with the great concerns of my country and all Christendom I may be permitted to mix so mean a consideration as my own private thoughts, I can truly say that the particular veneration I have for his person carries me beyond an ordinary zeal for his service. Besides this, my Lord, I am not so ignorant as not to see the great advantages of what is proposed to me. There is honour in it enough to satisfy an ambition greater than mine, and a step to the making my fortune which I could not have expected. These are temptations that would not suffer me easily to decline so eminent a favour, as the other are obligations to a forward obedience in all things, where there are hopes it may not be unuseful. But such is the misfortune of my circumstances, that I cannot accept the honour is designed me without rendering myself utterly unworthy of it. And however tempting it be, I cannot answer to myself or the world my embracing a trust which I may be in danger to betray even by my entering upon it. This I shall certain be guilty of, if I do not give your Lordship a true account of myself, and what I foresee may be prejudicial to his Majesty's affairs. My Lord, the post that is mentioned to me is at this time, if I

mistake not, one of the busiest and most important in all Europe, and, therefore, would require not only a man of common sense and good intentions, but one whom experience in the methods of such business has fitted with skill and dexterity to deal with not only the reasons of able, but the more dangerous artifices of cunning men, that in such stations must be expected and mastered. But, my Lord, supposing industry and good will would in time work a man into some degree of capacity and fitness, what will they be able to do with a body that hath not health and strength enough to comply with them? what shall a man do in the necessity of application and variety of attendance on business to be followed there, who, sometimes after a little motion, has not breath to speak, and cannot borrow an hour or two of watching from the night without repaying it with a great waste of time the next day? Were this a conjuncture wherein the affairs of Europe went smooth, or a little mistake in management would not be soon felt, but that the diligence or change of the Minister might timely enough recover it, I should perhaps think I might, without being unpardonably faulty, venture to try my strength, and make an experiment so much to my advantage; but I have a quite other view of the state of things at present, and the urgency of affairs comes on so quick, that there was never such need of successful diligence, and hands capable of dispatch as now.

The dilatory methods and slow proceedings, to say no worse of what I cannot without indignation reflect on in some of my countrymen, at a season when there is not a moment of time lost without endangering the Protestant and English interest throughout Europe, and which have already put things too far back, make me justly dread the thought that my weak constitution should in so considerable a post any way clog his Majesty's affairs; and I think it much better that I should be laid by to be forgotten for ever, than that they should at all suffer by my ambitiously forward undertaking what my want of health or experience would not let me manage to the best advantage; for I must again tell your Lordship, that however unable I might prove, there will not be time in this crisis to call me home and send another. If I have reason to apprehend the cold air of the country, there is yet another thing in it as inconsistent with my constitution, and that is their warm drinking. I confess obstinate refusal may break pretty well through it, but that at best will be but to take more care of my own health than the King's business. It is no small matter in such stations to



be acceptable to the people one has to do with, in being able to accommodate one's self to their fashions, and I imagine whatever I may do there myself, the knowing what others are doing is at least one-half of my business, and I know no such rack in the world to draw out men's thoughts as a well-managed bottle. If therefore it were fit for me to advise in this case, I should think it more for the King's interest to send a man of equal parts, that could drink his share, than the soberest man in the kingdom. I beseech you, my Lord, to look on this not as the discourse of a modest or lazy man, but of one who has truly considered himself, and above all things wishes well to the designs which his Majesty has so gloriously began for the redeeming England, and with it all Europe, and I wish for no other happiness in this world, but to see it completed, and shall never be sparing of my mite where it may contribute any way to it, which I am confident your Lordship is sufficiently assured of, and therefore I beg leave to tell your Lordship that if there be any thing wherein I may flatter myself I have attained any degree of capacity to serve his Majesty, it is in some little knowledge I, perhaps, may have in the constitutions of my country, the temper of my countrymen, and the divisions amongst them, whereby I persuade myself I may be more useful to him at home, though I cannot but see that such an employment would be of greater advantage to myself abroad would but my health consent to it. My Lord, missing your Lordship at your lodging this morning, I have taken the liberty to leave you my thoughts in writing, being loth that in any thing that depends on me there should be a moment's delay, a thing which at this time I look on as so criminal in others.

I am, my Lord,  
Your Lordship's most humble  
and most obedient servant,  
J. LOCKE."

Locke, on his return to England, after the Revolution, endeavoured to be reinstated in his studentship at Christ-church, and, for this purpose, presented a petition to the King, as visitor, to be restored to his former station and rights in that College.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.—THE HUMBLE PETITION  
OF JOHN LOCKE.

“SHEWETH,—That your Petitioner being student of Christ-church College, in Oxford, was, in the year 1684, by a letter sent by the Earl of Sunderland, the principal Secretary of State, to the Dean and Chapter of the said College, ordered to be turned out. Dr. Fell, then Bishop of Oxford, and Dean of the said College, finding it against the rules of common justice, as well as the ordinary method of the College, to turn out any one without hearing, or so much as being accused of any fact which might forfeit his place, especially one who had lived inoffensively in the College for many years, did, by a “Moneo” affixed to the screen in the College-hall of the same College, summon your Petitioner, who was then in Holland, to appear at Christmas following, which was about two months after, to answer any thing should be alleged against him; but this regular proceeding not suiting the designs upon the University, another letter was sent the week following with positive orders to turn your Petitioner out immediately, which was accordingly done.

“Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Majesty, being visitor of the said College, and having power by your immediate command to rectify what you find amiss there, would, out of your great justice and goodness, be graciously pleased to direct the Dean and Chapter of the said College to restore your Petitioner to his student's place, together with all things belonging unto it, which he formerly enjoyed in the said College.

“And your Petitioner shall ever pray.”

A Paper, indorsed J. Locke's case, 1679, contains the substance of the petition, with this variation :—

“He therefore prays his Majesty, who is Visitor of the said College, and has, at least, as much power to redress as others to do wrong, to grant his mandate to the Dean and Chapter of the said College immediately to restore the said John Locke to his former place of student in the College, and to his chambers and the other rights he had therein, with a liberty to be absent, he having an employment in his Majesty's service.”

What were the exact difficulties which prevented his re-instatement are not known; Le Clerc says, that finding he could only be received as a supernumerary, he determined to press his claim no farther. It is probable, from the terms of his petition, that he rejected any other conditions than such as should afford him full redress for the wrongs and injustice he had suffered.

One of the first acts that passed after the settlement of the new Government at the Revolution, was that for "exempting their Majesties' Protestant subjects from the penalties of certain laws;" and although the act confers but a scanty measure of religious liberty, it did not pass without the murmurs of the bigoted Churchmen. There is a tradition, that the terms of the Toleration Act were negotiated by Locke himself; and the fact is in some degree confirmed by an expression in one of his letters to Limborch. We know, however, that he was dissatisfied with the terms then granted, and that he considered them most inadequate and insufficient.

In this first charter of religious liberty, as much was granted as the prejudices of the time would permit. The Unitarians, who were not allowed to enjoy the benefit of that act, were afterwards relieved by a subsequent statute of George III. The repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, so long resisted, and at last so happily conceded, was the next great step towards the attainment of religious liberty and peace. The repeal of the laws which, since the reign of Charles the Second, have excluded our Roman Catholic fellow-subjects from their civil rights, and from their due share of political power, has now confirmed THAT JUST AND TRUE LIBERTY, THAT EQUAL AND IMPARTIAL LIBERTY, WHICH WE HAVE SO LONG STOOD IN NEED OF.

The Essay on Human Understanding, which had been finished during the author's retirement in Holland, and the English version of the Letter on Toleration, were now published on his return to his native country. They contributed, as Stewart has observed in his excellent Dissertation, to prepare the thinking part of his readers, in a degree till then unknown, for the unshackled use of the understanding. Perhaps it is not too much to say, that if Luther delivered the



Christian world from the thralldom\* of the priesthood in matters of religion; Locke, in no less degree, contributed, by his method of bold examination, and by his ardent search for truth, to deliver the world from the thralldom of errors and prejudices.

It has been observed by Mr. D. Stewart, and also by Sir James Mackintosh,† who, both as a writer and orator, is so eminently distinguished by his profound research and splendid talents, that the course and circumstances of Locke's life were, in every respect, favourable to the production of such a work as the *Essay on Human Understanding*. Mr. Stewart remarks, that the study of medicine formed one of the best preparations for the study of mind; and that the busy and diversified scenes through which the author afterwards passed, contributed, not less than the academical retirement of his former life, to enhance the peculiar and characteristic merit of his works. On his first entrance into life, as he himself says, "I no sooner perceived myself in the world, but I found myself in a storm;" and thus he might well describe the civil wars, and the military rule, which prevailed from his childhood to his twenty-sixth year. Educated then, to use the words of Sir James Mackintosh, amongst the English Dissenters, during the short period of their political ascendancy, he early imbibed that deep piety and ardent spirit of liberty which actuated that body of men; and he probably imbibed also in their schools the disposition to metaphysical inquiries, which has everywhere accompanied the Calvinistic theology. Sects, founded on the right of private judgment, naturally tend to purify themselves from intolerance, and in time learn to respect in others the freedom of thought, to the exercise of which they owe their own existence. By the Independent divines who were his instructors, our philosopher was taught those principles of religious liberty which they were the first to disclose to the world. When free inquiry led him to milder dogmas, he retained the severe morality which was their honourable singularity, and

\* It has been said that Luther made every man his own Pope; *i. e.* established the right of private judgment.

† Vide a most admirable article in the *Edinburgh Review*, vol. xxxvi.

which continues to distinguish their successors in those communities which have abandoned their rigorous opinions. His professional pursuits afterwards engaged him in the study of the physical sciences, at the moment when the spirit of experiment and observation was in its youthful fervour, and when a repugnance to scholastic subtleties was the ruling passion of the scientific world. At a more mature age he was admitted into the society of great wits and ambitious politicians; during the remainder of his life he was often a man of business, and always a man of the world, without much undisturbed leisure, and probably with that abated relish for merely abstract speculation, which is the inevitable result of converse with society, and experience in affairs. But his political connexions, agreeing with his early bias, made him a zealous advocate of liberty in opinion and in government; and he gradually united his zeal and activity to the illustration of such general principles as are the guardians of those great interests of human society. Almost all his writings (even his *Essay* itself) were occasional, and intended directly to counteract the enemies of reason and freedom in his own age. The first *Letter on Toleration*, the most original, perhaps, of his works, was composed in Holland, in a retirement where he was forced to conceal himself from the tyranny which pursued him into a foreign land; and it was published in England, in the year of the Revolution, to vindicate the Toleration Act, of which the author lamented the imperfection.

As no one is so capable of describing the extent and scope of Locke's improvements as the philosophical writer whose words have been already quoted, the same high authority is again appealed to in the following transcript, with all due acknowledgment, and with an unfeigned deference and admiration for his talents and judgment.

“It is with the Second Book that the *Essay on Human Understanding* properly begins, and this Book is the first considerable contribution in modern times towards the experimental philosophy of the human mind. The road was pointed out by Bacon; and by excluding the fallacious analogies of thought to outward appear-

ance, Descartes may be said to have marked out the limits of the proper field of inquiry. But before Locke, there was no example in intellectual philosophy of an ample enumeration of facts, collected and arranged for the express purpose of legitimate generalisation. He himself tells us, that 'his purpose was, in a plain historical method, to give an account of the ways by which our understanding comes to attain those notions of things we have.' In more modern phraseology this would be called an attempt to ascertain, by observation, the most general facts relating to the origin of human knowledge. There is something in the plainness, and even homeliness, of Locke's language, which strongly indicates his very clear conception, that experience must be his sole guide, and his unwillingness, by the use of scholastic language, to imitate the example of those who make a show of explaining facts, while, in reality, they only 'darken council by words without knowledge.' He is content to collect the laws of thought, as he would have collected those of any other object of physical knowledge, from observation alone. He seldom embarrasses himself with physiological hypotheses, or wastes his strength in those insoluble problems, which were then called metaphysical. Though in the execution of his plan there are many and great defects, the conception of it is entirely conformable to the Verulamian method of induction, which, even after the fullest enumeration of particulars, requires a cautious examination of each subordinate class of phenomena, before we attempt, through a very slowly ascending series of generalisation, to soar to comprehensive laws.

"Few books have contributed more to rectify prejudice, to undermine established errors, to diffuse a just mode of thinking, to excite a fearless spirit of inquiry, and yet to contain it within the boundaries which Nature has prescribed to the human understanding. An amendment of the general habits of thought is, in most parts of knowledge, an object as important as even the discovery of new truths, though it is not so palpable, nor in its nature so capable of being estimated by superficial observers. In the mental and moral world, which scarcely admit of any thing which can be called



discovery, the correction of the intellectual habit is probably the greatest service which can be rendered to science. In this respect the merit of Locke is unrivalled; his writings have diffused throughout the civilized world the love of civil liberty; the spirit of toleration and charity in religious differences; the disposition to reject whatever is obscure, fantastic, or hypothetical in speculation; to reduce verbal disputes to their proper value; to abandon problems which admit of no solution; to distrust whatever cannot be clearly expressed; to render theory the simple expression of facts; and to prefer those studies which most directly contribute to human happiness. If Bacon first discovered the rules by which knowledge is improved, Locke has most contributed to make mankind at large observe them. He has done most, though often by remedies of silent and almost insensible operation, to cure those mental distempers which obstructed the adoption of these rules; and thus led to that general diffusion of a healthful and vigorous understanding, which is at once the greatest of all improvements, and the instrument by which all other improvements must be accomplished. He has left to posterity the instructive example of a prudent reformer, and of a philosophy temperate as well as liberal, which spares the feelings of the good, and avoids direct hostility with obstinate and formidable prejudice. These benefits are very slightly counterbalanced by some political doctrines, liable to misapplication, and by the scepticism of some of his ingenious followers; an inconvenience to which every philosophical school is exposed, which does not steadily limit its theory to a mere exposition of experience. If Locke made few discoveries, Socrates made none; yet both did more for the improvement of the understanding, and not less for the progress of knowledge, than the authors of the most brilliant discoveries. Mr. Locke will ever be regarded as one of the great ornaments of the English nation; and the most distant posterity will speak of him, as in the language of the poet,

“O Decus Angliacæ certe, O Lux altera gentis.”

Gray de Princ. cogitand.

With respect to the style of the Essay, it has been observed by a most competent\* judge, that it resembles that of a well-educated man of the world, rather than of a recluse student, who had made an object of the art of composition. It everywhere abounds with colloquial expressions, which he had probably caught by the ear from those whom he considered as models of good conversation ; and hence, though it now seems somewhat antiquated, and not altogether suited to the dignity of the subject, it may be presumed to have contributed its share towards the great object of turning the thoughts of his contemporaries to logical and metaphysical inquiries.†

We learn from Lord Shaftesbury and from Addison, that the Essay very soon after its publication excited considerable attention. Lord Shaftesbury was one of the first who sounded the alarm against what he conceived to be the drift of that philosophy which denies the existence of innate principles. The most direct of all his attacks upon Locke is to be found in the eighth letter, addressed to a student at the university, which was published long after the death of Locke. The two following letters, from the same Lord Shaftesbury, then Lord Ashley, are selected from a great number written by the same person now remaining amongst Mr. Locke's papers : the one dated 1689, is near the period of the publication of the Essay, when, considering his intimacy with the author, he must have seen it ; the other, dated 1694, is soon after the publication of the second edition. They both appear to be aimed against the new philosophy, and being written to Locke, it is probable that the opinions contained in the Essay are the real objects of attack. After perusing these letters, the reader will probably be of opinion, that the friends of the author of the Essay gave him as much trouble as his public adversaries.

\* Mr. Dugald Stewart.

† In a new translation of Aristotle's Rhetoric, 1823, it is said of Locke's Essay, " This admirable work is recommended by clearness of conception, soundness of judgment, accuracy of reasoning, and a richness of fancy, equal to the illustration of every subject. When we add to all these the purity, aptness, and variety of his style, it is no wonder that the Essay on Human Understanding should have formed a new epoch in philosophy.

LORD ASHLEY TO MR. LOCKE.

“SIR,

Aug. 1689.

“I WAS so concerned at not being able to explain myself on some notions that I had only started to a discourse which, to excuse myself, I must say was begun by you, that whether it was only the affection that every one has to his own that made me fond of them, yet, rather than they should die so, I resolved to engage farther in their defence the next day, with the same impudence that I have used you to. But as good luck would have it for you, you were gone abroad, so I missed the gain of an hour or two by you, and you the loss of as much upon me; yet so far was I from learning the discretion I mought by this that I grew worse than before; those thoughts that were not so well satisfied with themselves, but feared their doom from you, proud and insolent with this reprieve, thought now of nothing less than living; and those that were clearer conscienced, and had before expected quarter, now fell to refining upon themselves, in hopes still better to deserve it; so that here was I drawn in and disposed of at the caprice of these impertinent thoughts, (for to speak ingenuously, I care not a straw for either one or other of them, or what becomes of them,) and for all what resistance my materiality could make, this troublesome immateriality, as the distinction is that you taught me, got the better, and I was forced to think whether I would or no. Being thus, at length, forced to know and acknowledge the existence and much superior force of an immaterial part; so finding it came upon me with such violence, I quitted hold, and let myself be carried down in the midst of this immaterial stream, which methinks, I had much rather have called this muddy one, if you would have let one alone to one's natural epithets.

“This here must certainly maze you, if, as I cannot expect otherwise, you should have forgotten the subject of the last discourse I had with you; therefore, to recover you out of what confusion such a wild style as this may have put you in, know the truth, that being caught in an idle hour, and cut off from the recourse to books, having only this very pen and paper left me for my defence, I bethought myself of the practice you have so often advised me to; and here being a very fair occasion offered, I resolved to muster up my disorderly thoughts, and make all the strength I could for those yesterday's notions that had fainted but at the apprehension of your siding against them, and that only in your absence could come to some-



thing, where they might have liberty to come to some head ere they were crushed, and were not to be destroyed so still in their rise ; but if, after all, that was to be their fate to perish under you, that I might at least have the honour of yielding with more resistance, and you of overcoming with greater opposition.

“ This is enough to vindicate myself from what may appear shocking to any thing that relates to religion by the side of the argument I have chose to defend, which I know you would have me do with vigour ; for as to myself, to make use of Monsieur Fontenelle’s words, ‘ *Je respecte jusqu’aux delicatesses excessives, que l’on a sur le fait de la religion.*’

“ Thus far in my letter I have let you read without interrupting you ; but for the rest that follows, unless you are as idle when you receive it as I am now I write it, pray put it up in your pocket, and do not read it till you happen to be so, how long soever it may be till that time.

“ So then to our argument. Whatever was of matter, you denied to be any part of the soul, and the only part you justified to be immaterial was thought. Now, what will thought prove when you do not appropriate it to a body ? What is it that thinks, when no material being does ? What is thought but the ideas of natural objects as they represent themselves to sensible creatures, and if these ideas do not cease with the sensibility of the creature, why do you attribute their original to matter ? Will you affirm, that that which subsists without matter, should have sprung from matter, and that that which sprung out of matter should outlive it ? Again, how is it, that in distempers and obstructions in the order and motion of the matter of our bodies, that the thinking faculty is by these obstructed : may there be a medium supposed, such a liaison, compounded of materiality and immateriality to work these mutual influences ? or what hold else shall plain matter have on that which has not any thing of its own nature ? Again, does the thought fail ever, as we know the senses may ? or do we think, and not know it ? feel, and not know it ? see, and not know it ? I would answer, we do not then feel, we do not then see : how then is it, that we still think, and think on you must ; for you dare not allow of a suspension of the exercise of thought, for fear of destroying the only reliance of its being. Thus much in short, but let us take away all materiality from the faculty of thinking, and all from the objects it is to work upon, (for this must be to suppose it completely independent from matter,) and then give me an idea of what this thought or idea is to be, or do but remove

a thing from us by the discovery of it to the sense or imagination of all living creatures like us ; will you say an idea shall simply rise from this real being ? as thus, before it was discovered the earth moved, or that there were antipodes, was there from this either thought or idea for several ages in the known part of our world ? Creatures dizzied, have fancied it to move, and, by a wild incoherence of rambling thought, men may have been fancied opposite as flies on a table. But this makes no idea of existence of those things ; for the very ideas, on which it must then be said to have been received, themselves hinder the framing of such a one, and show it to be only accidental classing of ideas, that have no just relation to one another. In short, from a being hid from the conceptions of all sensible creatures, (but such a one you cannot expect me to instance,) there can no idea or thought arise ; for if it be inanimate, it cannot have an idea of itself : therefore, as there is no idea but from things substantial, so there cannot be any from such but by the communication of them to the senses ; and thus, we owe all to our sensibility ; and by the measure this decreases, the other must.

“ But, to conclude with the best my apprehension will afford me, I define thought as a name given, not to the power whereby animated bodies are prepared and rendered capable of receiving the impressions of ideas, (for that Nature alone is to give an account of, and how matter in some bodies is animated, and in others not,) but to the action, the evident workings of exterior objects, by their ideas on sensible creatures, who receive them either by the immediate and forcible application of the objects to the senses, or by more remotely and indirectly from the impressions they have left. This depends on the natural composition of the brain, or other essential parts, as it is coarser or finer ; for as in animated creatures, from those that are but in the first degree removed from vegetables, to us that esteem ourselves in the farthest, the senses multiply and grow in vigour ; so do they, when arrived to a sufficient number and force, retain the many ideas they receive, and receive them afterwards by reflection. But here the imperfection of the remaining impressions, which the intervention of time has occasioned, or that originally may have been imperfect, and the obscurity of a dubious variety of these occurring representations, breed such alteration and confusion, that there is often great difficulty and trouble ere a fixed idea be framed in the mind ; that, last remaining, being the subsequent idea of the preceding ones, and formed by their concurrence. Those being just, orderly, and full, the general comprehensive idea that springs

thence will be true, and the nature of the thing described in the mind will appear as it is; whereas, if on the contrary, they prove weak, deceitful, confused, or imperfect, the conclusive ideas that are drawn from and formed out of those will be defective, corrupt, uncertain, false. I profess myself now, as far as I can, (and till I know more of myself you will excuse me) as far, that is, as materiality will go,

Entirely yours,

A. ASHLEY.\*

“MR. LOCKE,

St. Giles's, Sept. 29, 1694.

“You may most certainly be assured, that if out of any studies of mine, which you mention, I could draw any thing I thought could be any ways profitable, or other than superfluous to you, I should not fail to communicate it without any need of being pressed; since that all the end to which my studies, such as they are, have any leaning or bent, is but to learn me this one thing, in short—how to communicate every thing freely—how to be more sociable, and more a friend. How is it possible that I should be a niggard here, and not impart all that I were able? It is not with me as with an empiric, one that is studying of curiosities, raising of new inventions, that are to gain credit to the author; starting of new notions, that are to amuse the world, and serve them for diversion, or for trial of their acuteness, (which is all one as if it were some new play, as chess, or a game of cards that were invented;)—it is not, in my case, as with one of the men of new systems, who are to build the credit of their own invented ones upon the ruin of the ancients, and the discredit of those learned men that went before. Descartes, or Mr. Hobbes, or any of their improvers, have the same reason, to make ado, and be jealous about their notions and discoveries as they call them, as a practising apothecary or a mountebank has to be jealous about the compositions that are to go by his name; for, if it be not a livelihood is aimed, it is a reputation, and what I contend for reputation in I must necessarily envy another man's possession of. But as for me, could I make any of those admirable discoveries, which were nothing worth but to be commended for their subtilty, I would do as Timon did, (though out of a just contrary principle,) when he found gold,—after I had by chance dug upon it, and found what it was, I would put the clod over it again and say nothing of it, but forget it if I could. For my part, I am so far from thinking that mankind need any new discoveries, or that they lie in the dark, and are un-

\* Afterwards the third Earl of Shaftesbury, Author of the “Characteristics,” &c.



happy for want of them, that I know not what we could ask of God to know more than we do, or easily may do. The thing that I would ask of God should be to make men live up to what they know, and that they might be so wise as to desire to know no other things than what belonged to them, and what lay plain before them, and to know those to purpose; and that all other affectation of knowledge he would preserve us from as from a disease, in which sort of knowledge if we excelled ever so much, and were masters of all as far as we coveted, it would not help us to be one jot the honester or better creatures. If there be any one that knows not, or believes not that all things in the universe are done for the best, and ever will go on so, because conducted by the same good cause; if there be any one who knows nothing like this of God, or can think of him constantly in this manner, and who cannot see that he himself is a rational and a sociable creature by his nature, and has an end to which he should refer his slightest actions, such a one is indeed wanting of knowledge. But if this be known, (as what is easier to know?) there is not then one study or science that signifies a rush, or that is not worse than ignorance, which gives a man no help in the pursuance of what he has learnt to be his duty; assists him not in the government of the irrational and brutal part of himself; which neither makes him more truly satisfied with what God does in the world, (for that is loving God,) nor more sociable, more honest, or more just, by removing of those passions which he has always to struggle with, that he may preserve himself so. If there are any other sciences that are worthy of esteem, they are what must relate to the well-being of mankind in societies; and on that account a button-maker is to be esteemed if he improves his art, and adds some conveniency to life. But how the founders of metaphysics, of rhetoric, of the arts of reasoning upon every thing, and never coming to end, of the arts that lie in words, and the turns of them, and the divisions that may be run upon them; how, I say, these men came to be preferred to the commonest mechanics, I cannot tell. Anciently, these notable inquisitive men, that were curious in what signified nothing, were called by a name that they thought themselves highly honoured with, and aspired no farther; they were called *sophists*, and never expected to be treated in the style of *philosophers*, or *professors of philosophy*. Who were true philosophers those wise men showed, (for amongst them the name came up,) that were in early times in Greece, whom the fancy of people that succeeded put into a certain number called *seven*,

though the number was far greater ; of whom not one but was signally remarkable for some service to his Commonwealth ; who were all united in the strictest friendship, and by good offices, and helps one to another ; and whose study was that of knowing themselves, and learning how to be serviceable to others. When Socrates lived it was still thus, for he made the sophists know themselves and keep their distance ; but when after his death, the Socratic spirit sunk much, then began philosophy and sophistry to be better acquainted ; but it was never known till more late days, that to profess philosophy was not to profess a life, and that it might be said of one, that *he was a great man in philosophy*, whilst nobody thought it to the purpose to ask, *how did he live?* what instances of his fortitude, contempt of interest, patience, &c. ? What is philosophy, then, if nothing of this is in the case ? What signifies it to know (if we could know) what elements the earth was made from, or how many atoms went to make up the round ball we live upon, though we know it to an atom ? What signifies it to know whether the chaos was cast in Dr. Burnet's mould, or if God did it a quite different way ? What if we knew the exact system of that of our frames ; should we learn any more than this, that God did all things wisely and for the best ? And are we not already satisfied of this, or may be assured of it by the thousandth part of what we know and see ? If we should discover any thing that led us to conceive what were contrary to this, we should have learnt that which was worse than nothing. And better, then, we know already we cannot learn to know ; for God cannot by any discovery be conceived to be more wise than perfectly so, and such it is easy to conceive him to be without knowing any more of the things of nature than we already do. What I count true learning, and all that we can profit by is, to know ourselves ; what it is that makes us low and base, stubborn against reason ; to be corrupted and drawn away from virtue, of different tempers, inconstant, and inconsistent with ourselves ; to know how to be always friends with Providence, though death and many such dreadful businesses come in the way ; and to be sociable and good towards all men, though they turn miscreants, or are injurious to us. Whilst I can get any thing that teaches this ; whilst I can search any age or language that can assist me here ; whilst such are philosophers and such philosophy, whence I can learn aught from, of this kind, there is no labour or study, no learning that I would not undertake. This is what I know to be sufficiently despised ; for who is there that can think so much to the dishonour and

prejudice of himself as to think he has odious vices within him which only labour and exercise can throw out? or who, if he sees sometimes any such ill sights in himself, can endure to look on that side long, but turns to that other side which his flatterers (and himself the greatest of them) always readily present to him. To look to our bodies and our fortunes is a solid and serious work, and has been, is, and will keep in good fashion in the world. *Animi autem medicina*, (says one who spoke, yet in a much better time than this,) *nu tam desiderata antequam inventa, nu tam culta posteaquam cognita est, nu tam multis grata et probata pluribus etiam suspecta et invisâ.* . . . But I must end, for I have almost out-writ the post-time. You see what it is to get me a-talking. I can add nothing now more than that I am with all sincerity

Your entire friend and humble servant,

A. ASHLEY.

“I have not yet received the book, but I have a thousand obligations to my Lady Masham.”

About four years after the publication of the Essay, that is, towards the end of 1694, the new philosophy began to excite some attention at Oxford. It was Mr. Wynne, Fellow of Jesus College, who first appears to have recommended the Essay in that University; and it gives me pleasure to make known the opinions and the efforts of that excellent man, who was sincerely desirous of promoting the advancement of knowledge and science.

TO THE HONOURED MR. J. LOCKE.

“HONOURED SIR,

Oates, in Essex.

“AFTER the repeated perusal of your excellent Essay concerning Human Understanding, (which will ever afford me the most agreeable and instructive entertainment,) though I feel myself deeply impressed with motives of the greatest respect and esteem for the author, yet I am very sensible how impertinent it would be for one of my rank and condition to pretend to make any private acknowledgments for so public and universal a benefit. But having some thoughts relating to your book, which may be of advantage to the public, I make bold to offer them to you, not doubting but that your candour will pardon my presumption, though your judgment should disallow my proposal. Ever since I had the happiness to be ac-



quainted with your accurate Essay, I have been persuaded that the greatest service that could be done for the judicious and thinking part of the world, next to the composing of it, would be to bring it into vogue and credit, and thereby into common and general use. If men did not labour under inveterate prejudices and obstinate prepossessions, this might easily be effected. And yet, notwithstanding these, the truths contained in your book are so clear and evident, the notions so natural and agreeable to reason, that I imagine none that carefully reads and duly considers them, can avoid being enlightened and instructed by them. I have for some time made it my business, in my little sphere, to recommend it to all those that I have any influence over, nor did I ever meet with any, who, after an attentive and diligent perusal, complained of being disappointed in their expectation; but, on the contrary, they owned themselves to have been infinitely benefited by it. By the light which they have derived from it, they so clearly perceive how useless and insignificant our vulgar systems are, that they have resolved to trifle no longer, but to rid their hands and heads entirely of them; and in all probability it would have the same effect upon us all, if it were but read and considered by all. Now, in order to this, I am inclined to think that it would be very useful to publish an abridgment of the book. If some of the larger explications (some of which are but incidental to the general design of the work) were contracted, it might be reduced to the compass of a moderate 8vo. I need not represent to you the advantages of a small over a large volume; but shall only tell you that it would be of excellent use to us of this place, to be put into the hands of our young men, and be read and explained to them instead of those trifling and insignificant books, which serve only to perplex and confound, instead of enlightening and improving our reason. I do not see that there is any thing wanting in it to complete the third part in your division of science. I know you mention an epitome of the work in your preface; but 'tis, as I am informed, in a language not commonly understood among us, and too scarce to answer the end which I propose. If, upon this intimation, you shall think what is here offered worthy of your regard, I would willingly contribute any assistance that I may be capable of to ease you of the trouble. I humbly crave your pardon for this bold intrusion, and beg leave to subscribe myself, what I sincerely am, with all respect imaginable, honoured Sir,

Jesus College, Oxon.  
Jan. 31, 1695.

Your obedient and very humble Servant,  
JOHN WYNNE."

THE ANSWER TO THE ABOVE LETTER, INDORSED J. LOCKE TO J. WYNNE.

“ SIR,

Oates, 3d Feb., 1694-5.

“ YOU cannot think it strange that I should be surprised at the receipt of a letter of so much civility to me from a person I had not the honour to know, and of so great commendation of my book from a place where I thought it little taken notice of; and though the compliments you are pleased to bestow both on me and it are above what belongs to either, yet I cannot but acknowledge myself sensibly obliged by the kind thoughts you are biassed with in favour both of me and my Essay. It having been began by chance, and continued with no other design but a free inquiry into the subject, it would have been great vanity in me to publish it with hopes, that what had been writ for the diversion of my idle hours, should be made serious business of studious men who know how to employ their time. Those who had leisure to throw away in speculations a little out of the road, I guessed might perhaps look into it. If by the credit and recommendation of those, who, like you, have entertained it with a favourable opinion, it be read farther, and get into the hands of men of letters and study, it is more than I could expect from a Treatise I writ in a plain and popular style, which having in it nothing of the air of learning, nor so much as the language of the schools, was little suited to the use or relish of those, who, as teachers or learners, applied themselves to the mysteries of scholastic knowledge. But you, I see, are got above fashion and prejudice; and you must give me leave to have no ordinary thoughts of a man, who, by those two great opposers of all new efforts of improvement, will not suffer yourself to be hindered from contriving how to make the way to real knowledge more open and easy to those beginners who have set their faces that way. I should be very glad if any thing in my book could be made useful to that purpose. I agree with you, that most of the larger explications may be looked on as incidental to what you design, and so may by one, who would out of my book make a system of the third part in my division of science, be wholly passed by or but lightly touched on; to which let me add that several of those repetitions, which for reasons then I let it go with, may be omitted, and all the parts contracted into that form and bigness you propose. But with my little health, and less leisure, considering that I have been so long a stranger to systems, and am utterly ignorant what would suit those

you design it for, it is not for me to go about it, though what you have said would incline me to believe it might not be wholly lost labour. It is not for nothing I hope that this thought is fallen into the mind of one who is much abler to execute it; you, I see, are as much master of my notions as I myself, and better able to put them together to the purpose you intend. I say not this to decline giving my assistance, if you, in civility, think I can afford you any. The Abstract, which was published, in French, in the *Bibliothèque Universelle*, of 1688, will neither in its size or design answer the end you propose; but if the rough draught of it, which I think I have in English somewhere amongst my papers, may be of any use to you, you may command it, or whatever service I can do you in any kind; for I am, with a very particular esteem and respect,

Sir, your most humble Servant."

After the first objection had been overcome, the success of the Essay must be considered to have been very great, as its several successive editions during the life of the author, as well as an excellent translation by M. Coste into the French language, sufficiently attest. If, however, the Essay received the approbation of enlightened men, not only in England, but on the Continent, yet after an interval of several years from its first publication, when time had been allowed to sift its merits, and decide its character, it excited the disapprobation of the Heads of Houses at Oxford, who at one time took counsel to banish it from that seat of learning. Their proceedings are described in the following letter:—

MR. TYRRELL TO LOCKE.

"DEAR SIR,

April, 1704.

"In answer to yours received by our good friend, Mr. Church, the best information I can give you concerning the forbidding the reading of your Essay is as follows: That in the beginning of November last, there was a meeting of the Heads of Houses then in town; it was there proposed by Dr. Mill, and seconded by Dr. Maunder, that there was a great decay of long-cut exercises in the University, which could not be attributed to any thing so much as the new philosophy which was so much read, and in parti-



cular your Book and Le Clerc's Philosophy : against which it was offered, that a Programma should be published, forbidding all tutors to read them to their pupils. This was like, at first, to have passed, till it was opposed by some others there present, and particularly by Dr. Dunstan ; who not only vindicated your Book, but said that he thought the making the Programma would do more harm than good : first, by making so much more noise abroad, as if the University went about to forbid the reading of all philosophy but that of Aristotle ; next, that he thought that, instead of the end proposed, it would make young men more desirous to buy and read those books, when they were once forbid, than they were before. Then, at another meeting, their resolution upon the whole was, that upon Dr. Edwards' proposal they agreed, instead of a Programma, that all Heads of Houses should give the tutors private instructions not to read those books to their pupils, and to prevent their doing it by themselves as much as lay in their power ; and yet I do not find, after all, that any such thing has been put in execution in those Colleges where I have any acquaintance, as particularly in University, Magdalen, New College, and Jesus, all which have Heads that are sufficiently of the High Church party ; so that I believe they, finding it like to have little effect, have thought it best to let it drop. Mr. Percy, the son of your old acquaintance at Christ-church, not only read your book himself, but encouraged others to do it. I hope you will not impute the indiscreet zeal of a few to the whole University, any more than we should lay the failing of the Bishops to the Church.

Your most faithful servant,

T. TYRRELL."

It is here necessary to give some account of the attack which Dr. Stillingfleet, Bishop of Worcester, made upon the Essay, as also upon the principles of the author. If it be true, as it was reported at the time, that the Reverend Prelate died from vexation at the issue of the contest he had engaged in, his memory as a metaphysician has at least been preserved from oblivion by the celebrity of his antagonist, and by his own signal defeat.

The circumstances which led to the controversy were these :— Toland had published a book, called "Christianity not Mysterious," in which he endeavoured to prove that there is nothing in the

Christian religion contrary to reason, or even above it ; and in explaining his doctrines had used several arguments from the *Essay on Human Understanding*. It happened also that some Unitarian Treatises, published nearly at the same time, maintained that there was nothing in the Christian religion but what was rational and intelligible ; and Locke having asserted in his writings, that Revelation delivers nothing contrary to reason ; the Bishop of Worcester,\* defending the mysteries of the Trinity against Toland and the Unitarians, denounced some of Locke's principles as heretical, and classed his works with those of the above-mentioned writers. Locke answered the Bishop, who replied the same year. This reply was confuted by a second letter of Locke's, which produced a second answer from the Bishop in 1698. Locke again replied in a third letter, wherein he treated more largely of the certainty of reason by ideas, of "the certainty of faith, of the resurrection of the same body, and the immateriality of the soul." He showed the perfect agreement of his principles with the Christian religion, and that he had advanced nothing which had the least tendency to scepticism, with which the Bishop had very ignorantly charged him. The death of Stil-

\* It seems probable that Locke and Dr. Stillingfleet, though now engaged in adverse controversy, had formerly belonged to the same party ; the Bishop of Lincoln having conferred upon him his first dignity in the church at Shaftesbury's request.

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, AT WINBORNE, ST. GILES',  
DORSETSHIRE.

" MY VERY GOOD LORD,

Hatton Garden, Jan. 27, 1674.

" THAT your Lordship may perceive I have not been unmindful of the promise I made, I have conferred on Dr. Stillingfleet the Prebend of North Kelsey, which is the more acceptable to him, because it lies very conveniently, and is that which he desired.

" I wish your Lordship all happiness from my heart. The times are bad, but I comfort myself with the close of Bishop Duppa's Epistle before Archbishop Spottswood's History of Scotland—

' Non, si mala nunc, et olim sic erit.'

" Beseeching God to guide and protect you, I rest,

" Your Lordship's most humble and affectionate servant,

G. LINCOLN."

lingfleet put an end to the controversy ; in which we cannot but admire Locke's strength of reasoning, the great clearness and precision with which he explains his own notions and principles, and exposes and confutes those of his adversary. The Bishop was by no means able to maintain his opinions against Locke, whose reasons he did not understand any more than the subject itself about which they disputed. The Reverend Prelate had employed his time chiefly in the study of Ecclesiastical Antiquities, and in multifarious reading ; but was no great philosopher, and had never accustomed himself to that close way of thinking and reasoning, in which Locke so highly excelled. Notwithstanding the reason which Locke had to complain of the unfounded charges brought against him by the Bishop writing upon a subject upon which he was wholly ignorant, yet he always treated him with the respect due to his rank, whilst he triumphantly confuted his mistakes, and from his own words convicted him of inaccuracy and ignorance.

Never was a controversy, Le Clerc observes, managed with so much skill on one side, and on the other part with so much misrepresentation, confusion, and ignorance, alike discreditable to the cause and the advocate.

In other times, and under other circumstances, had a contest arisen between a Philosopher and a Churchman, the cause, if unfavourable to the latter, would have been removed into the Inquisition, or into the Court of High Ecclesiastical Commission. Perhaps this Prelate of our reformed church might, in the extremity of his distress, (as\* “ the method and management of that holy office were not wholly unknown to his Lordship, nor had escaped his great reading;”) breathe a regret, that he could not employ the arms of the Roman Church, or of the Stuart Princes, and silence his adversary by the same *ultima ratio* of ecclesiastics, which he had seen so successfully used against Galileo, scarce fifty years before.

In a letter written to his relation, Mr.† King, during the con-

\* Second Reply to the Bishop of Worcester.

† Afterwards Lord Chancellor.



troversy with the Bishop of Worcester, Locke, in noticing the observations and remarks of some of his adversaries, thus expresses his contempt :—

\* \* \* \*

November 5, 1698.

“ If those gentlemen think that the Bishop hath the advantage by not making good one of those many propositions in debate between us, but by asking a question, a personal question, nothing to the purpose, I shall not envy him such a victory. In the mean time, if this be all they have to say, the world that sees not with their eyes, will see what disputants for truth those are, who make to themselves occasions of calumny, and think that a triumph. The Bishop is to prove, that my book has something in it that is inconsistent with the doctrine of the Trinity, and all that upon examination he does, is to ask me, whether I believe the doctrine of the Trinity as it has been received in the Christian Church? a worthy proof !” \*

And in a draft of a letter on the proper manner of conducting a controversy, Locke says :—

“ If readers were not willing to cosin themselves, how could they,

\* EXTRACT OF LETTER, FROM LIEBNITZ, TO DR. BURNET, 1697.

“ Je liray avec attention les Amœbæa de Monsieur l'Evêque de Worcester et de Monsieur Locke. Je ne doute point que celui-ci ne se tire fort bien d'affaire. Il a trop de jugement pour donner prise à Messieurs les ecclesiastiques qui sont les directeurs naturels des peuples, et dont il faut suivre les formulaires autant qu'il est possible. Et j'ay déjà remarqué dans les endroits que j'ai vûs d'abord que Monsieur Locke se justifie d'une manière très solide. Il m'est arrivé quelque chose d'approchant avec le celebre Monsieur Arnaud. Il avait vû quelque chose de moy, et il avait crû y trouver des mauvaises conséquences, mais quand il eut vu mes explications il me déchargea hautement lui-même, et quoique nous ne fussions pas d'accord en tout, il ne laissa pas de reconnoître que mes sentimens n'avoient rien de mauvais.

“ J'imagine qu'il pourra arriver la même chose à l'égard de Monsieur de Worcester, car les sentimens peuvent demeurer differens sans être dangereuses ou repréhensibles. Je vous ai marqué autrefois en quoi je diffère un peu moy même de Monsieur Locke, et je serai bien aise d'en avoir un jour votre sentiment. Les miens en philosophie approchent un peu davantage de ceux de feu Madame la Comtesse de Conway, et tient le milieu entre Platon et Démocrite; puisque je crois que tout se fait mécaniquement comme veulent Démocrite et Descartes, contre l'opinion de Monsieur Morus et ses semblables. Et que néanmoins tout se fait encore vitalelement et suivant les causes finales, tout étant plein de vie et de perception, contre l'opinion des Démocriticiens. Un ami d'Hollande me demanda si mes remarques sur les essais de Monsieur Locke ne pourroient pas être jointes à la nouvelle édition de Hollande, mais je m'en excusai, car il auroit été injuste de publier dans son propre ouvrage quelque chose qui auroit pu paroître fait contre lui sans lui donner lieu d'y joindre sa reponse.”

where they pretend to seek for truth and information, content themselves with the jingle of words, and something they know not what, that looks like a sprinkling of wit or satire, in all which they find not the least improvement of their knowledge or reason. Those whose aim is to divert, and make men laugh, let them write plays and romances, and there sport themselves with words and false images of things as much as they please. But a professor, to teach or maintain truth, should have nothing to do with all that tinsel trumpery; should speak plain and clear, and be afraid of a fallacy or equivocation, however prettily it might look, and be fit to cheat the reader; who on his side should, in an author who pretends instruction, abominate all such arts, and him that uses them, as much as he would a common cheat who endeavours to put off brass money for standard silver."

It was not in this public controversy only that the author of the Essay was obliged to labour in defence of his work. He was equally anxious to satisfy the scruples of his friends, and to clear up any doubts and difficulties which they suggested. To Mr. Tyrrell he writes in explanation of some points which he had misunderstood, and successfully obviates the chief objections then, and since urged against what have been called the dangerous principles of the Essay.

"DEAR SIR,

Oates, Aug. 4th, 90.

"I SEE you and your friends are so far from understanding me yet rightly, that I shall give you the trouble of a few lines to make my meaning clearer, if possible, than it is; though I am apt to think, that to any unprejudiced reader, who will consider what I there ought to say, and not what he will fancy I should say besides my purpose, it is as plain as any thing can well be.—L. 1, c. 3, s. 13. where it was proper for me to speak my opinion of the law of nature, I affirm in as direct words as can ordinarily be made use of to express one's thoughts, that there is a law of Nature knowable by the light of Nature—Book second, c. 27. s. 7, and 8, where I have occasion to speak indefinitely of the divine law, it is objected I could mean none other but the divine revealed law exclusive of the law of nature, and that for two reasons; the first is, because I call it a law given by God

to mankind ; the law of Nature, then, in these men's opinions, had not God for its author ; for if it had, he gave it to mankind ; and if he did, I think it is no derogation to it to say, he gave it to mankind. I fear somebody on the other side will from this very sentence argue, that I could not mean the Mosaical or evangelical law of God. I am sure they may with more reason, for neither of those, as I take it, was given to mankind ; which is a term which, in my sense, includes all men. 'Tis plain the Mosaical law was not given to mankind ; for it was, Hear O Israel ! and I never yet met with any one that said the laws of Moses were the laws of mankind ; and as for the revealed will of God in the New Testament, which was a revelation made to the children of men 2000 years after Moses, and 4000 years after the Creation ; how that can be called a law given to mankind is hard to conceive, unless that men born before the time of the Gospel were no part of mankind, or the Gospel were revealed before it was revealed.

“ The other reason I find in your letter why I could not there mean the law of nature, is because the divine law I there speak of has inforcements of rewards and punishments in another life. Your letter, indeed says, *whose only enforcements*, but *only* is of your putting in, and not mine, as you will perceive if you read the passage in my book again ; and that, I suppose, would have as well excluded the law of Moses, as well as that of Nature, and I imagine the law of the Gospel too. But if those gentlemen think that it is a denial of that branch of the divine law which is called the law of Nature, to speak of a divine law whose inforcements are the rewards and punishments of another life, which is as much as to say the law of Nature has no such inforcements : and if they are of that opinion, they cannot but be very sincere and zealous sticklers for a divine law of morality only upon rewards and punishments of this life, 'tis easy to see what a kind of morality they intend to make of it. You tell me, you could not tell me how to answer them ; I am sorry for it, not being able to see any difficulty. The reason you give in these words : *I must confess I could not tell positively what reply to make, because you do not expressly tell us where to find this law, unless in the S. S. ; and since it is likewise much doubted by some whether the rewards and punishments you mention, can be demonstrated as established by your divine law.* This reason or reasons, seem very admirable to me, that I could not mean the law of Nature, because I did not expressly tell you where to find the law, unless in the S. S. I do not remember I any where tell you it is to be found in the S. S. Cannot



I tell you, in matter-of-fact, that some men, many men, do compare their actions to a divine law, and thereby form the ideas of their moral rectitude or pravity, without telling where that law is to be found? Another thing that stumbles you is, that *it is much doubted by some whether the rewards and punishments I mention, can be demonstrated as established by my divine law*. Will nothing then pass with you in religion or morality but what you can demonstrate? if you are of so nice a stomach, I am afraid, if I should now examine how much of your religion or morality you could demonstrate, how much you would have left: not but that I think that demonstration in these matters may be carried a great deal farther than it is. But there are many, perhaps millions of propositions in mathematics which are demonstrable, which neither you nor I can demonstrate, which, perhaps, no man has yet demonstrated, or will do, before the end of the world. The probability of rewards and punishments in another life, I should think, might serve for an inforcement of the divine law, if that were the business in hand; but in the present case, demonstration of future rewards and punishments was no more my business, than whether the squaring of the circle could be demonstrated or no. But I know not how you would still have me besides my purpose, and against all rules of method, run out into a discourse of the divine law, show how and when it was promulgated to mankind, demonstrate its inforcement by rewards and punishments in another life, in a place where I had nothing to do with all this, and in a case where some men's bare supposition of such a law, whether true or false, served my turn. It was my business there, to show how man came by moral ideas or notions, and that I thought they did, by comparing their actions to a rule. The next thing I endeavoured to show is, what rules men take to be the standards to which they compare their actions to frame moral ideas, and these I take to be the divine law, the municipal law, and the law of reputation or fashion. If this be so in matter-of-fact, I am in the right in all that I pretended, and was proposed in that place. If I am out in either of these propositions, I must confess I am in an error, but cannot be accused for not having treated more amply of these rules in that place, or entered into a full disquisition of their nature, force, or obligation, when, if you will look into the end of that chapter, you will find it is not of concernment to my purpose in that chapter, whether they be as much as true or no; but only that they be considered in the minds of men as rules to which they compare their actions,

and judge of their morality. But yet you think me guilty of other men's mistakes, because I did not write plainer, and I think they might have considered better what I writ. I imagine, what I was there to make out I have done very plainly, and if readers will not allow so much attention to the book they read, as to mind what the author is upon, and whether he directly pursues the argument in hand, they must blame themselves, if they raise doubts and scruples to themselves, where the author gave no occasion for any. And if they be ill-natured as well as groundless objections, one may suspect that they meant not over well to the author, or the argument they are so scrupulous about. You say, that to show what I meant, I should, after divine law, have added in a parenthesis, *which others call the law of nature*, which had been so far from what I meant, that it had been contrary to it, for I meant the divine law indefinitely, and in general, however made known or supposed; and if ever any men referred their actions to the law of nature as to a divine law, 'twas plain I meant, that if any judged of their actions by the law of Moses or Jesus Christ, as by a divine law, 'twas plain I meant that also: nay, the Alcoran of the Mahometans, and the Hanscrit of the Bramins could not be in this case excluded, (though perhaps you or your friends would have thought it more worth their censure if I had put them in, and then I had lain open to I know not what interpretation,) or any other supposed divine revelation whether true or false. For it being taken for a divine law, it would have served men, who make use of it, and judged of their actions by it, to have given them notions of morality or moral ideas, and that was all I was to show; indeed, if you can tell of any other rule but, 1st. Divine laws or the law of God; 2nd. Civil laws, or the laws of the magistrate; 3rd. The law of fashion or reputation, whereby men judge of the goodness of their actions, I have then failed in giving a full account whence men get their moral ideas: but that is all I can be accused to have failed in here; for I did not design to treat of the grounds of true morality, which is necessary to true and perfect happiness; it had been impertinent if I had so designed; my business was only to show whence men had moral ideas, and what they were, and that, I suppose, is sufficiently done in the chapter.

I am,

J. LOCKE."

The occupations which now engaged the attention of this great man were of the most varied and opposite description. He was at the same time a practical politician, and a profound speculative philosopher; a man of the world, engaged in the business of the world, yet combining with all those avocations the purity and simplicity of a primitive Christian. He pursued every subject with incredible activity and diligence; always regulating his numerous inquiries by the love of truth, and directing them to the improvement and benefit of his country and of mankind.

His literary employments at this period, were the Treatises on Government, written in defence of the Revolution against the Tory enemy. And in the following year, 1690, he published a Second Letter for Toleration, (without the name of its author,) in vindication of the principles of religious liberty, which had as naturally been attacked by a churchman.

Perhaps the most deadly blow which the Court and Church had ever directed against the liberty of the country, was the act of 1662, for preventing abuses in Printing. It established a censorship in England, and under the specious pretence of prohibiting the printing of books contrary to the Christian faith, or of seditious works, the number of printing-presses was limited by law within the narrowest bounds, and all works were subjected to the previous license of the governors of the Church and State.

This act was at first passed for seven years, and was afterwards continued in force, by several re-enactments, until a few years after the Revolution, when, by the refusal of the House of Commons, it was suffered to expire. The following copy of the objectionable clauses of the act, with Locke's observations upon each separate clause, will be found very interesting, as a record of the existence of a censorship in England, accompanied by the comments of so competent a judge, who had witnessed both the beginning and the end of that most arbitrary measure. These notes were probably written at the time when the Printing Act was last under consideration in Parliament, in 1694. If the unanswerable objections which Locke



stated against every part of that act contributed in any degree to prevent its farther re-enactment, his exertions may be regarded as no small service rendered to the cause of liberty and truth.

“ ANNO 14<sup>o</sup> CAR. 2. CAP. XXXIII.

“ An Act for preventing abuses in Printing seditious, treasonable, and unlicensed Books and Pamphlets, and for regulating Printing and Printing-presses.”

“ § 2. Heretical, seditious, schismatical, or offensive books, wherein any thing contrary to Christian faith, or the doctrine or discipline of the Church of England, is asserted ; or which may tend to the scandal of religion, or the church, or the government, or governors of the church, state, or of any corporation, or particular person, are prohibited to be printed, imported, published, or sold.”

Some of these terms are so general and comprehensive, or at least so submitted to the sense and interpretation of the governors of church and state for the time being, that it is impossible any book should pass but just what suits their humours. And who knows but that the motion of the earth may be found to be heretical, as asserting Antipodes once was ?

I know not why a man should not have liberty to print whatever he would speak ; and to be answerable for the one, just as he is for the other, if he transgresses the law in either. But gagging a man, for fear he should talk heresy or sedition, has no other ground than such as will make gives necessary, for fear a man should use violence if his hands were free, and must at last end in the imprisonment of all whom you will suspect may be guilty of treason or misdemeanour. To prevent men being undiscovered for what they print, you may prohibit any book to be printed, published, or sold, without the printer's or bookseller's name, under great penalties, whatever be in it. And then let the printer or bookseller, whose name is to it, be answerable for whatever is against law in it, as if he were the author, unless he can produce the person he had it from, which is all the restraint ought to be upon printing.

“ § 3. All books prohibited to be printed that are not first entered in the register of the Company of Stationers, and licensed.”

Whereby it comes to pass, that sometimes, when a book is brought to be entered in the register of the Company of Stationers, if they think it may turn to account, they enter it there as theirs, whereby the other person is hindered from printing and publishing it ; an example whereof can be given by Mr. Awnsham Churchill.

“ § 6. No books to be printed or imported, which any person or persons by force, or virtue of any letters patent, have the right, privilege, authority, or allowance, solely to print, upon pain of forfeiture, and being proceeded against as an offender against this present act, and upon the further penalty and forfeiture of six shillings and eight-pence for every such book or books, or part of such book or books imported, bound, stitched, or put to sale, a moiety to the King, and a moiety to the informer.”

By this clause, the Company of Stationers have a monopoly of all the classical authors ; and scholars cannot, but at excessive rates, have the fair and correct edition of those books printed beyond seas. For the Company of Stationers have obtained from the Crown a patent to print all, or at least the greatest part, of the classic authors, upon pretence, as I hear, that they should be well and truly printed ; whereas they are by them scandalously ill printed, both for letter, paper, and correctness, and scarce one tolerable edition is made by them of any one of them. Whenever any of these books of better editions are imported from beyond seas, the Company seizes them, and makes the importers pay 6s. 8d. for each book so imported, or else they confiscate them, unless they are so bountiful as to let the importer compound with them at a lower rate. There are daily examples of this ; I shall mention one, which I had from the sufferer's own mouth. Mr. Samuel Smith, two or three years since, imported from Holland Tully's Works, of a very fine edition, with new corrections made by Gronovius, who had taken the pains to

compare that which was thought the best edition before with several ancient MSS., and to correct his by them. These, Tully's Works, upon pretence of their patent for their alone printing Tully's Works, or any part thereof, and by virtue of this clause of this act, the Company of Stationers seized and kept a good while in their custody, demanding 6*s.* 8*d.* per book : how at last he compounded with them I know not, but by this act scholars are subjected to the power of these dull wretches, who do not so much as understand Latin, whether they shall have any true or good copies of the best ancient Latin authors, unless they pay them 6*s.* 8*d.* a book for that leave.

Another thing observable is, that whatever money, by virtue of this clause, they have levied upon the subject, either as forfeiture or composition, I am apt to believe not one farthing of it has ever been accounted for to the King, and it is probable considerable sums have been raised.

Upon occasion of this instance of the classic authors, I demand whether, if another act for printing should be made, it be not reasonable that nobody should have any peculiar right in any book which has been in print fifty years, but any one as well as another might have the liberty to print it ; for by such titles as these, which lie dormant, and hinder others, many good books come quite to be lost. But be that determined as it will, in regard of those authors who now write and sell their copies to booksellers, this certainly is very absurd at first sight, that any person or company should now have a title to the printing of the works of Tully, Cæsar, or Livy, who lived so many ages since, in exclusion of any other ; nor can there be any reason in nature why I might not print them as well as the Company of Stationers, if I thought fit. This liberty, to any one, of printing them, is certainly the way to have them the cheaper and the better ; and it is this which, in Holland, has produced so many fair and excellent editions of them, whilst the printers all strive to out-do one another, which has also brought in great sums to the trade of Holland. Whilst our Company of Stationers, having



the monopoly here by this act, and their patents, slobber them over as they can cheapest, so that there is not a book of them vended beyond seas, both for their badness and dearness; nor will the scholars beyond seas look upon a book of them now printed at London, so ill and false are they; besides, it would be hard to find how a restraint of printing the classic authors does any way prevent printing seditious and treasonable pamphlets, which is the title and pretence of this act.

“§ 9. No English book may be imprinted or imported from beyond the sea. No foreigner, or other, unless a stationer of London, may import or sell any books of any language whatsoever.”

This clause serves only to confirm and enlarge the Stationers' monopoly.

“§ 10. In this §, besides a great many other clauses to secure the Stationers' monopoly of printing, which are very hard upon the subject, the Stationers' interest is so far preferred to all others, that a landlord, who lets a house, forfeits five pounds if he know that his tenant has a printing-press in it, and does not give notice of it to the masters and wardens of the Stationers' Company. Nor must a joiner, carpenter, or smith, &c. work about a printing-press, without giving the like notice, under the like penalty.”

Which is greater caution than I think is used about the presses for coinage to secure the people from false money.

“By § 11. The number of master-printers were reduced from a greater number to twenty, and the number of master-founders of letters reduced to fewer; and upon vacancy, the number to be filled by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, and to give security not to print any unlicensed books.”

This hinders a man who has served out his time the benefit of setting up his trade, which, whether it be not against the right of the subject, as well as contrary to common equity, deserves to be considered.

“ § 12. The number of presses that every one of the twenty master-printers shall have are reduced to two. Only those who have been masters, or upper-wardens of the Company may have three, and as many more as the Archbishop of Canterbury or Bishop of London will allow.

§ 13. Every one who has been master, or upper-warden of the Company, may have three ; every one of the livery two ; and every master-printer of the yeomanry but one apprentice at a time.”

By which restraint of presses, and taking of apprentices, and the prohibition in § 14, of taking or using any journeymen except Englishmen and freemen of the trade, is the reason why our printing is so very bad, and yet so very dear in England. They who are hereby privileged to the exclusion of others, working and setting the price as they please, whereby any advantage that might be made to the realm by this manufacture is wholly lost to England, and thrown into the hands of our neighbours ; the sole manufacture of printing bringing into the Low Countries great sums every year. But our Ecclesiastical laws seldom favour trade, and he that reads this act with attention will find it upse\* ecclesiastical. The nation loses by this act, for our books are so dear, and ill printed, that they have very little vent among foreigners, unless now and then by truck for theirs, which yet shows how much those who buy the books printed here are imposed on, since a book printed at London may be bought cheaper at Amsterdam than in Paul's Church-yard, notwithstanding all the charge and hazard of transportation : for their printing being free and unrestrained, they sell their books at so much a cheaper rate than our booksellers do ours, that in truck, valuing ours proportionably to their own, or their own equally to ours, which is the same thing, they can afford books received from London upon such exchanges cheaper in Holland than our stationers sell them in England. By this act England loses in general, scholars in particular are ground, and nobody gets, but a lazy, ignorant Company of Stationers, to say no worse of them ; *but any thing, rather than let Mother Church be disturbed in her opinions or impositions by any bold inquirer from the press.*

\* A low word, derived from the Dutch *upzee*, signifying highly.

“§ 15. One or more of the messengers of his Majesty's chamber, by warrant under his Majesty's sign-manual, or under the hand of one of his Majesty's principal secretaries of state, or the master and wardens of the Company of Stationers, taking with them a constable and such assistance as they shall think needful, has an unlimited power to search *all houses*, and to seize upon all books which they shall but think fit to suspect.”

How the gentry, much more how the peers of England came thus to prostitute their houses to the suspicion of any body, much less a messenger upon pretence of searching for books, I cannot imagine. Indeed, the House of Peers, and others not of the trades mentioned in this act, are pretended to be exempted from this search, § 18, where it is provided they shall not be searched but by special warrant under the King's sign-manual, or under the hands of one of the Secretaries of State. But this is but the shadow of an exemption, for they are still subject to be searched, every corner and coffer in them, under pretence of unlicensed books, a mark of slavery which, I think, their ancestors would never have submitted to. They so lay their houses, which are their castles, open, not to the pursuit of the law against a malefactor convicted of misdemeanour, or accused upon oath, but to the suspicion of having unlicensed books, which is, whenever it is thought fit to search his house to see what is in it.

“§ 16. All printers offending any way against this act are incapacitated to exercise their trade for three years. And for the second offence, perpetual incapacity, with any other punishment not reaching to life or limb.”

And thus a man is to be undone and starved for printing Dr. Bury's case, or the History of Tom Thumb unlicensed.

“§ 17. Three copies of every book printed are to be reserved, whereof two to be sent to the two Universities by the master of the Stationers' Company.”

This clause, upon examination, I suppose, will be found to be mightily, if not wholly neglected, as all things that are good in this act, the Company of Stationers minding nothing in it but what



makes for their monopoly. I believe that if the public libraries of both Universities be looked into, (which this will give a fit occasion to do,) there will not be found in them half, perhaps not one in ten of the copies of books printed since this act.

§ Last. This act, though made in a time when every one strove to be forwardest to make court to the Church and Court, by giving whatever was asked, yet this was so manifest an invasion of the trade, liberty, and property of the subject, that it was made to be in force only for two years. From which, 14 Car. 2, it has, by the *joint endeavour of Church and Court*, been, from time to time, received, and so continued to this day. Every one being answerable for books he publishes, prints, or sells, containing any thing seditious or against law, makes this or any other act for the restraint of printing very needless in that part, and so it may be left free in that part as it was before 14 Car. 2. That any person or company should have patents for the sole printing of ancient authors is very unreasonable and injurious to learning; and for those who purchase copies from authors that now live and write, it may be reasonable to limit their property to a certain number of years after the death of the author, or the first printing of the book, as, suppose, fifty or seventy years. This I am sure, it is very absurd and ridiculous that any one now living should pretend to have a propriety in, or a power to dispose of the propriety of any copy or writings of authors who lived before printing was known or used in Europe."

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This act, which had been renewed once since the Revolution, was suffered finally to expire in 1694. It may appear extraordinary that the same Parliament which passed the Act of Settlement, and embodied the Declaration of Rights in our statutes, should also have subjected the press to the fetters imposed upon it by the former printing acts of Charles and James II. But as the Revolution was effected by the assistance of the Church, the new government might perhaps wish to avoid giving offence to that powerful party by too sudden a repeal of this their favourite act.

It was probably at this period, during Locke's residence in London, which continued about two years after the Revolution of 1688, that he became known to Newton, some of whose letters fortunately have been preserved. With Sir John Somers he lived at this time in habits of intimate friendship, and one of his recreations was a weekly meeting for the purpose of conversation and discussion, held at the house of Lord Pembroke, the same Earl of Pembroke to whom Locke had dedicated the Essay.

Several letters from Newton, from Lord Monmouth, better known as the celebrated Earl of Peterborough in the succeeding reign, and from Lord Somers, are here inserted, and considering by whom they were written, and to whom they were addressed, they will not be read with indifference, or considered superfluous.

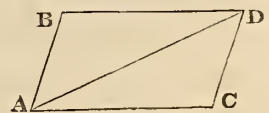
The following papers, indorsed Mr. Newton, March 1689, are the earliest in point of date; they are Newton's Demonstration of Kepler's Observation, that the planets move in ellipses, as communicated by that great philosopher before the publication of his Principia.

A DEMONSTRATION, THAT THE PLANETS, BY THEIR GRAVITY TOWARDS  
THE SUN, MAY MOVE IN ELLIPSES.

“Hypoth. 1.—Bodies move uniformly in straight lines, unless so far as they are retarded by the resistance of the medium, or disturbed by some other force.

“Hypoth. 2.—The alteration of motion is proportional to the force by which it is altered.

“Hypoth. 3.—Motions impressed by forces in different lines, if those lines be taken in proportion to the motions, and completed into a parallelogram, compose a motion whereby the diagonal of the parallelogram shall be described in the same time in which the sides thereof would have been described by the compounding motions apart. The motions A B, A C, compound the motion A D.







in the third moment, E F in the fourth, F G in the fifth, &c. ; the triangles A E D, shall be equal to the triangle A D C, and all the following triangles to one another. And by consequence the areas compounded of these equal triangles (as ABC, AEG, ABG, &c.) are to one another as the times in which they are described. Suppose now, that the moments of time be diminished in length, and increased in number in *infinitum*, so that the impulses or impressions of the attraction may become continual, and that the line BC, DEFGH, by the infinite number, and infinite littleness of its sides BC, CD, DE, &c. may become a curve line ; and the body, by that continual attraction, shall describe areas of this curve, ABE, AEG, ABG, &c. proportional to the times in which they are described, which was to be demonstrated.

LEMMA 1.

“ If a right line touch an ellipsis in any point thereof, and parallel to that tangent be drawn another right line from the centre of the ellipsis which shall intersect a third right line drawn from the touch point through either focus of the ellipsis ; the segment of the last named right line, lying between the point of intersection, and the point of contact, shall be equal to half the long axis of the ellipsis.

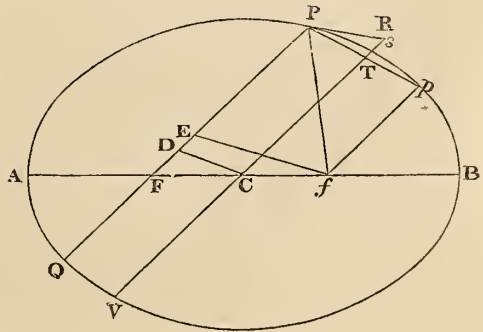
“Let APBQ be the ellipsis, AB its long axis, C its centre Ff, its foci, P the point of contact, PR the tangent, CD the line parallel to the tangent, and PD the segment of the line PF; I say, that this segment shall be equal to CB.

“ For join PF, and draw  $fE$  parallel to CD; and because Ff and FE are bisected in C and D, PD shall be equal (to half the sum of PF, and PE, that is, to half the sum of PF, and Pf, that is to half AB, that is) to CB, *W. w.* to be demonstrated.

LEMMA 2.

“Every line drawn through either focus of any ellipse, and terminated at both ends by the ellipses, is to that diameter of the ellipse, which is parallel to this line, as the same diameter is to the long axis of the ellipse.

“Let APBQ be the ellipsis, AB its longer axis, Ff its foci, C its centre,





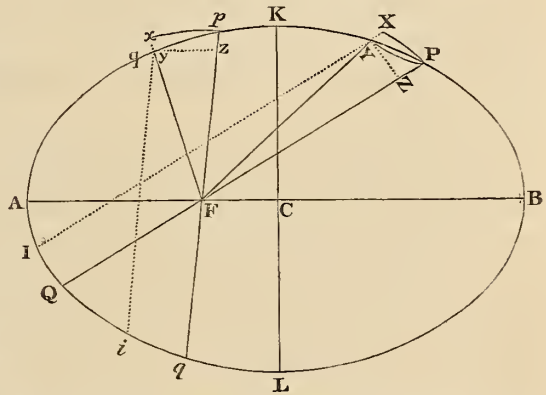
they have also demonstrated that all the parallelograms circumscribed about an ellipsis are equal. Whence the rectangle  $PE \times GH$  is equal to the rectangle  $AB \times KL$ , and consequently  $GH$  is to  $KL$  as  $AB$ , that is (by Lem. 1.)  $2 PD$ , is to  $2 PE$ , and by consequence as  $PX$  to  $YZ$ ; and therefore  $PX$  is to  $GH$  as  $YZ$  to  $KL$ , and  $PX^q$  to  $GH^q$  as  $YZ^q$  to  $KL^q$ . But  $PX^q$  was to  $GH^q$  as  $YXI$  to  $SV^q$ , and  $SV^q$  (by Corol. Lem. 2.) is equal to  $AB \times PQ$ , and therefore  $YXI$  is to  $AB \times PQ$  as  $YZ^q$  to  $KL^q$ . *W.w.* to be Dem.

## PROP. 2.

“If a body be attracted towards either focus of any ellipsis, and by that attraction be made to revolve in the perimeter of the ellipsis, the attraction shall be reciprocally as the square of the distance of the body from that focus of the ellipsis.

“Let  $P$  be the place of the body in the ellipsis at any moment of time, and  $PX$  the tangent, in which the body would move uniformly, were it not attracted, and  $X$  the place in that tangent at which it would arrive in any given part of time, and  $Y$  the place in the perimeter of the ellipsis at which the body doth arrive in the same time by means of the attraction.

Let us now suppose the time to be divided into equal parts, and that those parts are very little ones, so that they may be considered as physical moments; and that the attraction acts not continually, but by intervals in the beginning of every physical moment, and let the first action be upon the body in  $P$ , the next upon it in  $Y$ , and so on per-



petually; so that the body may move from  $P$  to  $Y$ , in the chord of the arch  $PY$ , and from  $Y$  to its next place in the ellipsis in the chord of the next arch, and so on for ever. And because the attraction in  $P$  is made towards  $F$ , and diverts the body from the tangent  $PX$  into the chord  $PY$ , so that in the end of the first physical moment it is not found in the place  $X$ , where it would have been without the attraction, but in  $Y$ , being by the force of the attraction in  $P$  translated from  $X$  to  $Y$ , the line  $XY$ , generated by the force of attraction in  $P$ , must be proportional to that force



and parallel to its direction, that is, parallel to  $PF$ , as is manifest by the third hypothesis.

“ Produce  $XY$  and  $PF$  till they cut the ellipsis in  $I$  and  $Q$ . Join  $FY$ , and upon  $FP$  let fall the perpendicular  $yz$ , and let  $AB$  be the long axis, and  $KL$  the short axis of the ellipsis, and by the third Lemma,  $YXI$  will be to  $AB \times PQ$  as  $YZ^{\text{quad}}$  to  $KL^{\text{quad}}$ , and by consequence,  $YX$  will be equal to  $\frac{AB \times PQ \times YZ^{\text{quad}}}{xy \times KL^{\text{quad}}}$

“ And in like manner, if  $py$  be the chord of another arch,  $py$ , which the revolving body describes in a physical moment of time, and  $px$  be the tangent of the ellipsis at  $p$ , and  $xy$  the subtense of the angle of contact drawn parallell to  $pF$ , and if  $pF$  and  $xy$ , produced, cut the ellipsis in  $q$  and  $i$ ; and from  $y$ , upon  $pF$  be let fall the perpendicular  $yz$ , the subtense  $yx$  shall be equal to  $\frac{AB \times pq \times yz^{\text{quad}}}{xi \times KL^{\text{quad}}}$ .

“ Now, because the lines  $PY$   $py$  are, by the revolving body, described in equal times, the areas of the triangles  $PYF$ ,  $pyF$  must be equal by the first proposition, and therefore the rectangles  $PF \times YZ$  and  $pF \times yz$  are equal; and  $pF$  is to  $PF$  as  $YZ$  to  $yz$ , and  $pF^{\text{quad}}$  to  $PF^{\text{quad}}$  as  $YZ^{\text{quad}}$  to  $yz^{\text{quad}}$  (and if you multiply the antecedents alike, and the consequents alike,)  $\frac{PQ}{XI} pF^{\text{quad}}$  to  $\frac{pq}{xi} PF^{\text{quad}}$  as  $\frac{PQ}{XI} YZ^{\text{quad}}$  to  $\frac{pq}{xi} yz^{\text{quad}}$  that is, as  $\frac{AB \times PQ \times YZ^{\text{quad}}}{XI \times KL^{\text{quad}}}$  to  $\frac{AB \times pq \times yz^{\text{quad}}}{Xi \times KL^{\text{quad}}}$ , that is as  $YX$  to  $yx$ , and therefore as the attraction in  $P$  to the attraction in  $p$ , by Hypoth. 2 and 3.

“ Suppose now, that the equal times in which the revolving body describes the lines  $PY$ , and  $py$  becomes infinitely little, so that the attraction may become continual, and the body, by this attraction, revolve in the perimeter of the ellipsis, and the line  $PQ$ ,  $XI$ , as also  $pq$ ,  $xi$  becoming coincident, and by consequence equal the quantities  $\frac{PQ}{XI} pF^{\text{q}}$  and  $\frac{pq}{xi} PF^{\text{q}}$  will become  $pF^{\text{q}}$  and  $PF^{\text{q}}$ ; and therefore the attraction in  $P$  will be to the attraction in  $p$  as  $pF^{\text{q}}$  to  $PF^{\text{q}}$  that is reciprocally as the squares of the distances of the revolving body from that focus of the ellipsis towards which the attraction is directed, which was to be demonstrated.”

The first letter dated November 14, 1690, and that dated Feb. 16, 169 $\frac{1}{2}$ , relate to "an account of the corruptions of Scripture" written by Newton, and which he desired to have translated into French, and published abroad. He resolved afterwards, as it appears by his letter dated February 16, 169 $\frac{1}{2}$ , to suppress the translation and impression, and it is believed that Newton's letters upon the disputed verse in the Epistle of St. John, and the controverted passage in the first Epistles to Timothy, were not published before 1754. Mr. Porson, in his celebrated letter to Archdeacon Travis, states that Newton wrote his discourse between 1690 and 1700, but that it was not published before 1754, and then imperfectly. It was afterwards restored by Dr. Horsley, in his edition of Newton from the original manuscript, of which a more detailed account will be found at the end of these letters.

" SIR,

Nov. 14, 1690.

" I send you now by the carrier, Martin, the papers I promised. I fear I have not only made you stay too long for them, but also made them too long by an addition. For upon the receipt of your letter reviewing what I had by me concerning the text of 1 John, v. 7. and examining authors a little further about it, I met with something new concerning that other of 1st Tim. iii. 16. which I thought would be as acceptable to inquisitive men, and might be set down in a little room ; but by searching farther into authors to find out the bottom of it, is swelled to the bigness you see. I fear the length of what I say on both texts may occasion you too much trouble, and therefore if at present you get only what concerns the first done into French, that of the other may stay till we see what success the first will have. I have no entire copy besides that I send you, and therefore would not have it lost, because I may, perhaps, after it has gone abroad long enough in French, put it forth in English. What charge you are at about it, (for I am sure it will put you to some,) you must let me know ; for the trouble alone is enough for you. Pray present my most humble service and thanks to my Lord and Lady Monmouth, for their so kind remembrance of me ; for their favour is such that I can never sufficiently acknowledge it. If your voyage hold, I wish you a prosperous one, and

happy return. I should be glad of a line from you, to know that you have these papers, and how far you have recovered your health, for you told me nothing of that.

I am, Sir,  
Your most faithful and most humble Servant,  
IS. NEWTON."

" SIR,

Cambridge, Feb. 7, 1690—1.

" I am sorry your journey proved to so little purpose, though it delivered you from the trouble of the company the day after. You have obliged me by mentioning me to my friends at London, and I must thank both you and my Lady Masham for your civilities at Oates, and for not thinking that I made a long stay there. I hope we shall meet again in due time, and then I should be glad to have your judgment upon some of my mystical fancies. The Son of man, Dan. vii. I take to be the same with the Word of God upon the White Horse in Heaven, Apoc. xix, and him to be the same with the Man Child, Apoc. xii, for both are to rule the nations with a rod of iron; but whence are you certain that the Ancient of Days is Christ? Does Christ any where sit upon the throne? If Sir Francis Masham be at Oates, present, I pray, my service to him with his lady, Mrs. Cudworth, and Mrs. Masham. Dr. Covell is not in Cambridge.

I am,  
Your affectionate and humble servant,  
IS. NEWTON."

" Know you the meaning of Dan. x. 21. *There is none that holdeth with me in these things but Mich. the Prince.*"

" SIR,

" I had answered your letter sooner, but that I stayed to revise and send you the papers which you desire. But the consulting of authors proving more tedious than I expected, so as to make me defer sending them till the next week, I could not forbear sending this letter alone, to let you know how extremely glad I was to hear from you; for though your letter brought me the first news of your having been so dangerously ill, yet by your undertaking a journey into Holland, I hope you are well



recovered. I am extremely much obliged to my Lord and Lady Monmouth for their kind remembrance of me, and whether their design succeeded or not, must ever think myself obliged to be their humble servant. I suppose Mr. Falio is in Holland, for I have heard nothing from him the half year.

Sir, I am,

Your most humble servant,

“ Cambridge, Sept. 28, 1690.”

IS. NEWTON.”

“ SIR,

Cambridge, June 30th, 1691.

“ YOUR deferring to answer my letter is what you needed not make an apology for, because I use to be guilty of the same fault as often as I have nothing of moment to write, and therefore cannot in justice complain. If the scheme you have laid of managing the controller's place of the M., will not give you the trouble of too large a letter, you will oblige me by it. I thank you heartily for your being so mindful of me, and ready to assist me with your interest. Concerning the *Ancient of Days*, Dan. vii. there seems to be a mistake either in my last letter, or in yours, because you wrote in your former letter, that the Ancient of Days is Christ; and in my last, I either did, or should have asked, how you knew that. But these discourses may be done with more freedom at our next meeting. I am indebted to my solicitor, Mr. Starkey. If you please to let me have your opinion what I should send him, I will send it with a letter by the carrier. My lady Masham and you have done me much honour in looking into my book, and I am very glad to have the approbation of such judicious persons. The observation you mention in Mr. Boyle's book of colours, I once made upon myself with the hazard of my eyes. The manner was this: I looked a very little while upon the sun in the looking-glass with my right eye, and then turned my eyes into a dark corner of my chamber, and winked, to observe the impression made, and the circles of colours which encompassed it, and how they decayed by degrees, and at last vanished. This I repeated a second and a third time. At the third time, when the phantasm of light and colours about it were almost vanished, intending my fancy upon them to see their last appearance, I found to my amazement, that they began to return, and by little and little to become as lively and vivid as when I had newly looked upon the sun. But when I ceased to intente my fancy upon them, they vanished again.

After this, I found that as often as I went into the dark, and intended my mind upon them, as when a man looks earnestly to see any thing which is difficult to be seen, I could make the phantasm return without looking any more upon the sun; and the oftener I made it return, the more easily I could make it return again. And at length, by repeating this without looking any more upon the sun, I made such an impression on my eye, that if I looked upon the clouds, or a book, or any bright object, I saw upon it a round bright spot of light like the sun; and, which is still stranger, though I looked upon the sun with my right eye only, and not with my left, yet my fancy began to make the impression upon my left eye, as well as upon my right. For if I shut my right eye, and looked upon a book or the clouds with my left eye, I could see the spectrum of the sun almost as plain as with my right eye, if I did but intende my fancy a little while upon it; for at first, if I shut my right eye, and looked with my left, the spectrum of the sun did not appear till I intended my fancy upon it; but by repeating, this appeared every time more easily. And now, in a few hours' time, I had brought my eyes to such a pass, that I could look upon no bright object with either eye, but I saw the sun before me, so that I durst neither write nor read: but to recover the use of my eyes, shut myself up in my chamber made dark, for three days together, and used all means to divert my imagination from the sun. For if I thought upon him, I presently saw his picture, though I was in the dark. But by keeping in the dark, and employing my mind about other things, I began in three or four days to have some use of my eyes again; and by forbearing a few days longer to look upon bright objects, recovered them pretty well, though not so well, but that for some months after the spectrum of the sun began to return as often as I began to meditate upon the phenomenon, even though I lay in bed at midnight with my curtains drawn; but now I have been very well for many years, though I am apt to think, that if I durst venture my eyes, I could still make the phantasm return by the power of my fancy. This story I tell you, to let you understand, that in the observation related by Mr. Boyle, the man's fancy probably concurred with the impression made by the sun's light, to produce that phantasm of the sun which he constantly saw in bright objects: and so your question about the cause of this phantasm, involves another about the power of fancy, which I must confess is too hard a knot for me to untie. To place this effect in a constant motion is hard, because the sun ought

then to appear perpetually. It seems rather to consist in a disposition of the sensorium to move the imagination strongly, and to be easily moved both by the imagination and by the light, as often as bright objects are looked upon.

“ If the papers you mention come not out, I will tell you at our next meeting what shall be done with them.

“ My humble service to Sir Francis, my lady, and Mrs. Cudworth.

I am

Your most humble servant,

Is. NEWTON.”

“ SIR,

Cambridge, Jan. 26th, 169½.

“ BEING fully convinced that Mr. Mountague, upon an old grudge which I thought had been worn out, is false to me, I have done with him, and intend to sit still, unless my Lord Monmouth be still my friend. I have now no prospect of seeing you any more, unless you will be so kind as to repay that visit I made you the last year. If I may hope for this favour, I pray bring my papers with you. Otherwise, I desire you would send them by some convenient messenger when opportunity shall serve. My humble service to my Lady Masham, and to Sir Francis if at Oates.

I am

Your most humble servant,

Is. NEWTON.”

“ I understand Mr. Boyle communicated his process about the red earth and Mercury to you as well as to me, and before his death, procured some of that earth for his friends.”

“ SIR,

Cambridge, Feb. 16th, 169½.

“ YOUR former letters came not to my hand, but this I have. I was of opinion my papers had lain still, and am sorry to hear there is news about them. Let me entreat you to stop their translation and impression so soon as you can, for I design to suppress them. If your friend hath been at any pains and charge, I will repay it, and gratify him. I am very glad my Lord Monmouth is still my friend, but intend not to give his lordship and you any farther trouble. My inclinations are to sit still. I am to beg his Lordship's pardon, for pressing into his company the last time I saw him. I had not done it, but that Mr. Pawlin pressed me into the room.



Miracles of good credit continued in the Church for about two or three hundred years. Gregorius Thaumaturgus had his name from thence, and was one of the latest who was eminent for that gift: but of their number and frequency, I am not able to give you a just account. The history of those ages is very imperfect. Mr. Pawlin told me, you had writ for some of Mr. Boyle's red earth, and by that I knew you had the receipt.

Your most affectionate and humble servant,

Is. NEWTON."

" SIR,

August 2d, 1692.

" I BEG your pardon that I sent not your papers last week ; the carrier went out a quarter of an hour sooner than I was aware of. I am glad you have all the three parts of the recipe entire ; but before you go to work about it, I desire you would consider these things, for it may perhaps save you time and expense. This recipe I take to be the thing for the sake of which Mr. Boyle procured the repeal of the Act of Parliament against Multipliers, and therefore he had it then in his hands. In the margin of the recipe was noted, that the mercury of the first work would grow hot with gold, and thence I gather that this recipe was the foundation of what he published many years ago, about such mercuries as would grow hot with gold, and therefore was then known to him, that is, sixteen or twenty years ago, at least ; and yet, in all this time, I cannot find that he has either tried it himself, or got it tried with success by any body else : for, when I spoke doubtingly about it, he confessed that he had not seen it tried ; but added, that a certain gentleman was now about it, and it succeeded very well so far as he had gone, and that all the signs appeared so that I needed not doubt of it. This satisfied me that mercury, by this recipe, may be brought to change its colours and properties, but not that gold may be multiplied thereby ; and I doubt it the more, because I heard some years ago of a company, who were upon this work in London, and after Mr. Boyle had communicated his recipe to me, so that I knew it was the same with theirs. I inquired after them, and learnt that two of them were since forced to other means of living ; and a third, who was the chief artist, was still at work, but was run so far into debt that he had much ado to live ; and by these circumstances, I understood that these gentlemen could not make the thing succeed. When I told Mr. Boyle of these gentlemen, he acknowledged that

the recipe was gone about among several chymists, and therefore I intend to stay till I hear that it succeeds with some of them.

“ But, besides, if I would try this recipe, I am satisfied that I could not, for Mr. Boyle has reserved a part of it from my knowledge. I know more of it than he has told me; and by that, and an expression or two which dropped from him, I know that what he has told me is imperfect and useless without knowing more than I do: and, therefore, I intend only to try whether I know enough to make a mercury which will grow hot with gold, if perhaps I shall try that. For Mr. Boyle to offer his secret upon conditions, and after I had consented not to perform his part, looks oddly; and that the rather because I was averse from meddling with his recipe, till he persuaded me to it; and by not performing his part, he has voided the obligation to the conditions on mine, so that I may reckon myself at my own discretion to say or do what I will about this matter, though perhaps I shall be tender of using my liberty. But that I may understand the reason of his reservedness, pray will you be so free as to let me know the conditions which he obliged you to, in communicating this recipe; and whether he communicated to you any thing more than is written down in the three parts of the recipe. I do not desire to know what he has communicated, but rather that you would keep the particulars from me, (at least in the second and third part of the recipe,) because I have no mind to be concerned with this recipe any farther than just to know the entrance. I suspect his reservedness might proceed from mine; for when I communicated a certain experiment to him, he presently, by way of requital, subjoined two others, but cumbered them with such circumstances as startled me, and made me afraid of any more: for he expressed that I should presently go to work upon them, and desired I would publish them after his death. I have not yet tried either of them, nor intend to try them; but since you have the inspection of his papers, if you design to publish any of his remains, you will do me a great favour to let these two be published among the rest. But then I desire that it may not be known that they come through my hands. One of them seems to be a considerable experiment, and may prove of good use in medicine for analysing bodies; the other is only a knack. In dissuading you from too hasty a trial of this recipe, I have forborne to say any thing against multiplication in general, because you seem persuaded of it; though there is one argument against it, which I could never find an

answer to, and which, if you will let me have your opinion about it, I will send you in my next.\*

“ SIR,

Cambridge, Dec. 13, 1691.

“ WHEN I received your former letter, I was engaged here by the term, and could not stir. I thank you for putting me in mind of Charter-house, but I see nothing in it worth making a bustle for : besides a coach, which I consider not, it is but 200*l.* per annum, with a confinement to the London air, and to such a way of living as I am not in love with ; neither do I think it advisable to enter into such a competition as that would be for a better place. Dr. Spencer, the Dean of Ely, has perused the specimen of Le Clerc's Latin Version of the Old Testament, and likes the design very well, but gives me no remarks upon it. Pray return my most humble service and hearty thanks to my Lady Masham, for her ladyship's kind invitation; and accept of mine to yourself for so frankly offering the assistance of your friends, if there should be occasion. Mr. Green called on me last Tuesday, and I designed to have answered your letter sooner, but beg your pardon that I did not.

I am,

Your most humble servant,

IS. NEWTON.”

“ SIR,

Cambridge, May 3rd, 1692.

“ NOW the churlish weather is almost over, I was thinking within a post or two, to put you in mind of my desire to see you here, where you shall be as welcome as I can make you. I am glad you have prevented me, because I hope now to see you the sooner. You may lodge conveniently either at the Rose tavern, or Queen's Arms inn. I am glad the edition is stopped, but do not perceive that you had mine, and therefore have sent you a transcript of what concerned miracles, if it come not now too late. For it happens that I have a copy of it by me. ‘ Concerning miracles, there is a notable passage or two in Ireneus L. 22, c. 56, recited

\* Multiplication of metals was the term used by the chymists of that time to express a process, by which they supposed that a certain quantity of a metal would be increased by their operations. Locke was, at this time, editing a General History of the Air, by the Right Hon. Robert Boyle.



by Eusebius, l. 5, c. 17. The miraculous refection of the Roman army by rain, at the prayers of a Christian legion, (thence called *fulminatrix*) is mentioned by Ziphilina apud Dionam. in Marco Imp, and by Tertullian Apolog. c. 5, and ad Scap. c. 4, and by Eusebius l. 5, c. 5. Hist. Eccl., and in Chronico, and acknowledged by the Emperor Marcus in a letter, as Tertullian mentions. The same Tertullian somewhere challenges the heathens to produce a *Demoniac*, and he will produce a man who shall cast out the demon.' For this was the language of the ancients for curing lunatics. I am told that Sir Henry Yelverton in a book about the truth of Christianity, has writ well of the ancient miracles, but the book I never saw. Concerning Gregory Thaumaturgus, see Gregory Nystra in ejus vita, and Basil de Spiritu Sancto. c. 29.

" My humble service to Sir Francis and his lady.

I am

Your most humble servant,

Is. NEWTON.

" I know of nothing that will call me from home this month."

I must be allowed to call the reader's attention to the two following letters, by prefixing the note of Mr. Dugald Stewart.

" For the preservation of this precious memorial of Mr. Locke," he is pleased to say, " the public is indebted to the descendants of his friend and relation, the Lord Chancellor King;" and after noticing the ingenuous and almost infantine simplicity of Newton's letters, he adds, speaking of Locke's reply; " it is written with the magnanimity of a philosopher, and with the good-humoured forbearance of a man of the world; and it breathes throughout, so tender and so unaffected a veneration for the good as well as great qualities of the excellent person to whom it is addressed, as demonstrates at once the conscious integrity of the writer, and the superiority of his mind to the irritation of little passions:" he adds, " I know nothing from Locke's pen which does more honour to his temper and character."

“ SIR,

“ BEING of opinion that you endeavoured to embroil me with women and by other means, I was so much affected with it, as that when one told me you were sickly and would not live, I answered, ’twere better if you were dead. I desire you to forgive me this uncharitableness. For I am now satisfied that what you have done is just, and I beg your pardon for my having hard thoughts of you for it, and for representing that you struck at the root of morality, in a principle you laid down in your book of ideas, and designed to pursue in another book, and that I took you for a Hobbist. I beg your pardon also for saying or thinking that there was a design to sell me an office, or to embroil me.

I am

Your most humble

“ At the Bull, in Shoreditch, London,  
Sept. 16th, 1693.”

And unfortunate servant,

IS. NEWTON.”

#### LOCKE TO NEWTON.

“ SIR,

Oates, Oct. 5th, 93.

“ I HAVE been ever since I first knew you, so entirely and sincerely your friend, and thought you so much mine, that I could not have believed what you tell me of yourself, had I had it from any body else. And though I cannot but be mightily troubled that you should have had so many wrong and unjust thoughts of me, yet next to the return of good offices, such as from a sincere good will I have ever done you, I receive your acknowledgment of the contrary as the kindest thing you could have done me, since it gives me hopes that I have not lost a friend I so much valued. After what your letter expresses, I shall not need to say any thing to justify myself to you. I shall always think your own reflection on my carriage both to you and all mankind, will sufficiently do that. Instead of that, give me leave to assure you, that I am more ready to forgive you than you can be to desire it; and I do it so freely and fully, that I wish for nothing more than the opportunity to convince you that I truly love and esteem you; and that I have still the same good will for you as if nothing of this had happened. To confirm this to you more fully, I should be glad to meet you any where, and the rather, because the conclusion of your letter makes me apprehend it would not be wholly useless to you. But whether you think it fit or not, I leave wholly to you. I

shall always be ready to serve you to my utmost, in any way you shall like, and shall only need your commands or permission to do it.

“ My book is going to the press for a second edition; and though I can answer for the design with which I writ it, yet since you have so opportunely given me notice of what you have said of it, I should take it as a favour, if you would point out to me the places that gave occasion to that censure, that by explaining myself better, I may avoid being mistaken by others, or unawares doing the least prejudice to truth or virtue. I am sure you are so much a friend to them both, that were you none to me, I could expect this from you. But I cannot doubt but you would do a great deal more than this for my sake, who after all have all the concern of a friend for you, wish you extremely well, and am without compliment.”

The draft of the letter is indorsed “ J. L. to I. Newton.”

“ SIR,

“ THE last winter by sleeping too often by my fire, I got an ill habit of sleeping; and a distemper, which this summer has been epidemical, put me farther out of order, so that when I wrote to you, I had not slept an hour a night for a fortnight together, and for five nights together not a wink. I remember I wrote to you, but what I said of your book I remember not. If you please to send me a transcript of that passage, I will give you an account of it if I can.

I am your most humble servant,

“ Cambridge, Oct. 5th, 1693.”

IS. NEWTON.”

Newton in the following letter criticises Locke's paraphrase of 1 Corinthians, vii. 14, the unbelieving husband is sanctified or made a Christian by his wife; the words, however, stand unaltered in the printed copy.

“ SIR,

London, May 15, 1703.

“ UPON my first receiving your papers, I read over those concerning the first Epistle of the Corinthians, but by so many intermissions, that I resolved to go over them again, so soon as I could get leisure to do it with more attention. I have now read it over a second time, and gone over also your papers on the second Epistle. Some faults, which seemed to be faults



of the Scribe, I mended with my pen, as I read the papers ; some others, I have noted in the inclosed papers. In your paraphrase on 1 Cor. vii. 14, you say, ‘ the unbelieving husband is sanctified, or made a Christian in his wife.’ I doubt this interpretation, because, the unbelieving husband is not capable of baptism, as all Christians are. The Jews looked upon themselves as clean, holy, or separate to God, and other nations as unclean, unholy, or common, and accordingly, it was unlawful for a man that was a Jew, to keep company with, or come unto one of another nation. Act. x. 28. But when the propagation of the Gospel made it necessary, for the Jews who preached the Gospel to go unto, and keep company with the Gentiles, God showed Peter by a vision, in the case of Cornelius, that he had cleansed those of other nations, so that Peter should not any longer call any man common or unclean, and on that account, forbear their company : and thereupon, Peter went in unto Cornelius and his companions, who were uncircumcised, and did eat with them. Acts x. 27, 28. and xi. 3. Sanctifying therefore, and cleansing, signify here, not the making a man a Jew or Christian, but the dispensing with the law, whereby the people of God were to avoid the company of the rest of the world as unholy or unclean. And if this sense be applied to St. Paul’s words, they will signify, that although believers are a people holy to God, and ought to avoid the company of unbelievers as unholy or unclean, yet this law is dispensed with, in some cases, and particularly in the case of marriage. The believing wife must not separate from the unbelieving husband as unholy or unclean, nor the believing husband from the unbelieving wife : for the unbeliever is sanctified or cleansed by marriage with the believer, the law of avoiding the company of unbelievers being, in this case, dispensed with. I should therefore interpret St. Paul’s words, after the following manner,

“ ‘ For the unbelieving husband is sanctified or cleansed by the believing wife, so that it is lawful to keep him company, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband ; else, were the children of such parents to be separated from you, and avoided as unclean, but now by nursing and educating them in your families, you allow that they are holy.’

“ This interpretation I propose as easy and suiting well to the words and design of St. Paul, but submit it wholly to your judgment.

“ I had thoughts of going to Cambridge this Summer, and calling at Oates in my way, but am now uncertain of this journey. Present, I

pray, my humble service to Sir Francis Masham and his Lady. I think your paraphrase and commentary on these two Epistles, is done with very great care and judgment.

I am

Your most humble,

And obedient servant,

Is. NEWTON."

REMARKS ON SIR ISAAC NEWTON'S THREE LETTERS.\*

THE principal subject to which the first letter of 14th of November, 1690, relates, and which is referred to in the others, of 16th February, 1692, and 3d May, 1692, will cause them to be read with interest by the Biblical scholar. Sir Isaac Newton's dissertations on the controverted texts of 1 John, c. v. v. 7, and 1 Timothy iii. 16, have long been before the public, and now hold their proper rank amongst the ablest treatises of this class. The history of these valuable tracts is, however, but imperfectly known; it may, therefore, not be unacceptable to state here a few facts, collected chiefly from Mr. Locke's papers, which may conduce to its elucidation. Mr. Porson, who must be believed to have been extensively acquainted with whatever related to the controversy, evidently knew little as to the origin of the first of these works, and of its progress towards publication. In the Preface to his masterly Letters to Travis, (pp. ii, iii,) he thus expresses himself:—"Between the years 1690 and 1700, Sir Isaac Newton wrote a Dissertation upon 1 John, v. 7, in which he collected, arranged, and strengthened Simon's arguments, and gave a clear, exact, and comprehensive view of the whole question. This Dissertation, which was not published till 1754, and

\* I am indebted to the kindness of the Rev. Dr. Rees, to whom I had submitted the letters of Sir Isaac Newton and of M. Le Clerc with Mr. Locke, for these learned and critical remarks.

then imperfectly, has been lately restored by Dr. Horsley, in the last edition of Newton's Works, from an original manuscript." Bishop Horsley, who regarded the two Dissertations with no favourable eye, satisfies himself with the following account of their publication:—"A very imperfect copy of this Tract, wanting both the beginning and the end, and erroneous in many places, was published in London, in the year 1754, under the title of 'Two Letters from Sir Isaac Newton to Mr. Le Clerc:' but, in the author's manuscript, the whole is one continued discourse, which, although it is conceived in the epistolary form, is not addressed to any particular person."—Preface to the Tract, Newton's Works, vol. v. p. 494.

The edition of 1754, although it conveys some additional information, leaves some things still to be explained. The editor thus accounts (pp. 122, 123,) for his possession of the papers:—"The reader is to be informed that the manuscript of these two Letters is still preserved in the library of the Remonstrants in Holland. It was lodged there by Mr. Le Clerc, and it was sent to him by the famous Mr. Locke, and is actually in the hand-writing of this gentleman. And notwithstanding the Letters have the acknowledged defects, the editor thought it a pity that the world should be longer deprived of these two pieces, as they now are, since they cannot be obtained more perfect, all other copies of them being either lost or destroyed."

The "acknowledged defects," to which the editor alludes, are the loss of the beginning of the first letter, and of the end of the second. The second letter is printed after the imperfect manuscript, and concludes in the middle of a sentence. A different fate befel its companion. Another writer, conjecturing from the course of argument pursued in the existing portion of the first dissertation, what must have been comprised in that which was lost, drew up a new introduction to supply its place. The reader is not apprised of this fact till he arrives at the end of the thirteenth page, when his attention is arrested by the following note. "The editor must inform the reader, that *thus far is not Sir Isaac's*; the copy trans-



mitted to him fairly acknowledges it, and adds, that the first four paragraphs of the manuscript are lost; and that as there were no hopes of recovering them, they were supplied, not out of vanity, but merely to lay before the reader those passages which the letter itself plainly shows had been made use of by the author himself; and to the purposes, as is apprehended, they are here subservient to; and an assurance is also given that all which follows the words ‘he makes use of,’ are Sir Isaac’s own, without alteration.”

The author of the new introduction has shown himself to be a man of learning, well acquainted with the subject. There is, however, a considerable difference, as may well be imagined, between what he has written and Sir Isaac Newton’s original, which is now happily recovered.

These are the chief particulars of information to be obtained from books as to the early history of the two tracts. It may be proper to add, that in some catalogues of Sir Isaac Newton’s works, another edition is mentioned of the date of 1734, under the title of “Two Letters to Mr. Clarke, late Divinity Professor of the Remonstrants in Holland.” But no opportunity has occurred of consulting this edition, which is stated to be a duodecimo pamphlet.

Mr. Locke’s papers have thrown some new light upon this subject. From Sir Isaac Newton’s letters, inserted above, we now learn that these valuable papers were first communicated to Mr. Locke in the strictest confidence. The author, with his characteristic timidity, shrunk from the responsibility of sending them forth to the public with the sanction of his name, and thus expose himself to the scoffs or the censures of the theological bigots of the age, who were either incompetent or indisposed to appreciate the value of his labours. Mr. Locke was at this time meditating a voyage to Holland; and Sir Isaac Newton’s first purpose was, that he should take these papers with him, and, through the medium of some literary acquaintance, procure the translation and publication of them there in the French lan-

guage. He wished in this manner, without bringing himself personally before the public, to ascertain the feeling and judgment of Biblical critics, as to the subjects of his work. Then, "after it had gone abroad long enough in French," he "might," he states, "perhaps put it forth in English."

Mr. Locke having postponed or abandoned his design of re-visiting Holland, forwarded the papers to his friend M. Le Clerc, with instructions to have them translated and published. Sir Isaac Newton was not apprised of this circumstance, but, knowing that Mr. Locke had not quitted England, concluded that they were still in his possession. In the second letter, written fifteen months after the first, he expresses his regret at learning that this was not the case, and entreats Mr. Locke to countermand the translation, it being his design to suppress the work. In the third letter, written three months later, he merely says, he was "glad the edition was stopped."

There exist no letters of Mr. Locke's to indicate what steps he took towards the execution of Sir Isaac Newton's commission. This deficiency is, however, partially supplied by the letters, still among his papers, addressed to him by M. Le Clerc. The subject is first mentioned in a letter dated April 11th, 1691, in which M. Le Clerc thus writes :—

"Dès que j'aurai quelque loisir je traduirai, ou en Latin ou en François, le petit *Historical Account*, &c., qui mérite de voir le jour. Je crois pourtant qu'il pourroit être meilleur si l'Auteur avoit lu avec soin ce que M. Simon a dit du sujet, dont il parle dans la critique du N. T. p. 1."

In a letter dated July the 31st, in the same year, referring to a preceding communication, probably the letter already quoted, M. Le Clerc writes :—

"Je vous y disois quelque chose du M.S. sur le passage corrompu. Je n'en ai encore rien fait, à cause de diverses occupations que j'ai eues, mais j'espère d'avoir occasion de le publier avec quelques autres dissertations, étant trop petit pour paroître tout seul. Un

trop petit livre se perd ; il faut tâcher de le grossier un peu si on veut qu'il subsiste."

The next letter in which the tract is mentioned, is dated Jan. 20th, 1692, and was written after a farther communication had been received from Mr. Locke. "J'aurois soin," says M. Le Clerc, "d'insérer dans la dissertation sur le passage de S. J. l'addition que vous m'avez envoyée, et de traduire l'autre, pour les publier toutes deux ensemble en Latin. Si je n'étois pas engagé dans un autre travail qui demande tout mon temps, j'entreprendrois de composer, ou de traduire en Latin, quantité de dissertations Anglois, ou François, ou Italiennes, sur des sujets de literature, qui sont peu connues, et que leur petitesse fait perdre. Je les donnerois de temps en temps au public, comme *la Bibliothèque* ou les *Nouvelles de la Rep. des Lettres* ; et je le ferois à mes dépenses, parce que les libraires sont ici si avarés, et de si mauvais goût, qu'ils veulent tout avoir pour rien, et méprisent les meilleures choses lorsqu'on les leur offre. Mais je suis à present trop occupé pour cela."

M. Le Clerc's next letter is dated the 11th of April, 1692. He had by this time received Mr. Locke's instructions to stop the publication. From the terms of M. Le Clerc's answer, it may be conjectured, that the fears of the author of the tract that he might be recognized, even through the disguise of a translation, had been alleged as the cause of its suppression ; and this conjecture is strengthened by the language of the subsequent letter.

"C'est dommage," writes M. Le Clerc, "que ces deux dissertations MSS. que j'ai, demeurent supprimés. Je ne crois pas que l'on put reconnoître qu'elles sont traduites, à moins qu'on ne le dit. Dans une matière de cette nature, où je ne saurois manquer de prendre le sens de l'auteur, j'y donne un tour d'original qui ne sent point du toute la traduction. Je n'avois pas encore conclu pour cela avec l'imprimeur, qui faisoit difficulté à cause de la petitesse de l'ouvrage ; et depuis votre lettre, je ne lui en ai plus parlé."

In the next letter, July 15, 1692, M. Le Clerc thus expresses himself :



“Je garderai fidèlement les deux dissertations que j’ai, jusqu’à ce que vous me marquerez ce que l’Auteur veut que j’en fasse. Je puis bien dire, que ni cela, ni autre chose qui seroit publié ici, ne feroit aucune affaire à personne, pourvu qu’on n’en sût rien d’ailleurs de là la mer. Il faut hazarder quelque chose pour decrasser beaucoup d’honnêtes gens, qui ne pechent que par ignorance, et qui desabuseroient les autres s’ils étoient desabusés.”

On the 5th of December, in the same year, M. Le Clerc observes :—“ Vous aurez oui parler de dernier Tome de la critique du P. Simon sur le N. Testament. Il y a encore quelques éclaircissemens sur le passage de S. Jean, sur lequel M. Arnaud avoit fait diverses remarques dans ses *Objections à M. Steyaert*. Cela meritoit d’être examiné par l’Auteur de la dissertation.”

No farther notice of these papers occurs in this correspondence, which continued to the year 1704, when Mr. Locke died. There can be no doubt that the manuscript remained in M. Le Clerc’s hands up to this period. He had been enjoined not to publish the dissertations, and he appears to have faithfully acted up to his instructions. He was fully competent to appreciate their value : the most favourable and inviting opportunities offered of making them more extensively known through the press. His *Bibliothèque*, which had been discontinued about 1693, to afford him leisure to prosecute works of more research and greater importance, was resumed in December 1703, and continued till about 1730 ; and yet, in none of the volumes, although presenting so convenient a channel for their publication, are they introduced or named. In the absence of more decisive information, we may receive, as probable at least, the statement of the anonymous editor of the edition of 1754, that M. Le Clerc deposited the manuscript in the library of the Remonstrants, from which, through the medium of a friend, he alleges that he received his copy.

The title of the edition of 1754, “Two Letters from Sir Isaac Newton to Mr. Le Clerc,” is conjectural and inaccurate. The tract having been in M. Le Clerc’s possession, being written too in

the epistolary form, and the first leaves with the title-page having been lost, the editor concluded that the author had actually addressed them to the Remonstrant professor. It is now clear that Sir Isaac Newton had no direct correspondence with this gentleman on the subject, all the communications having been made through Mr. Locke. There is also good reason to believe that Mr. Locke had on no occasion divulged to his correspondent the name of the writer, who was anxious to remain unknown. If the letters were really addressed to any one, it must have been to Mr. Locke, to whom the papers were transmitted as they were composed. The probability however is, that the epistolary form was adopted by the author merely as a matter of taste or convenience. The title given to the tract by M. Le Clerc himself, in acknowledging the receipt of the manuscript in the first extract inserted above, is not that of "Two Letters," but "*Historical Account*," &c. which corresponds with the beginning of the title of the copy inserted in Bishop Horsley's edition of Newton's Works, viz :—"An Historical Account of Two Notable Corruptions of Scripture, in a Letter to a Friend."

Sir Isaac Newton tells Mr. Locke, "I have no entire copy besides that I send you." At a later period, he must have written many other copies, without introducing any very material alterations. Bishop Horsley performed a valuable service to biblical literature, by the publication of one in the author's own hand, in the possession of Dr. Ekins, Dean of Carlisle. From the catalogue of the Newton Manuscripts at Lord Portsmouth's, at Hurstborne, it would appear that there are some copies there; but whether in a perfect state, or not, cannot be ascertained until that collection shall have been examined by some competent person, less influenced by theological and ecclesiastical biases, than the learned and Right Reverend editor of Sir Isaac Newton's Works.

## MR. SOMERS TO MR. LOCKE.

“ DEAR SIR,

Oxon, Wednesday, 5th March, 1689.

“ SINCE you have wished so kindly to my election, I cannot but think it my duty to give you an account that yesterday morning my old partner, Mr. Bromley, and myself were chosen at Worcester without any opposition. I know you will be pleased to hear that my Lord Bellamont has all the reason in the world to be assured of being elected at Droitwich, and I hope the next post will bring you a certain account that it is so, to-morrow being his day. This day was the election for the county of Worcester, and I doubt not but Mr. Foley and Sir Fr. Winnington were chosen, which may be looked upon as good fortune, for there would have been danger from any pretenders, as far as I can find, by the sense of the county. I was very willing to get out of the town as soon as my election was over, and so got into the circuit at this place, from whence I shall go back to Worcester, where I hope you will make me so happy as to let me receive another letter from you, in which I will beg your advice, (for by this time you have an account of the bulk of the elections,) whether you think I may go on in the circuit or not: what you write shall be my rule in this point. If I could hope to be useful, I would not fail to be at the opening of the Session; but if there be no hopes of it, (and that the Gazette inclines me to believe,) I would take the advantage of the whole circuit, since I am now engaged in it. This letter I beg from you by Saturday’s post; and when I have the satisfaction of seeing you, I will beg your pardon for this freedom, which nothing but your kindness to me upon all occasions, as well as my dependance upon your judgment, could have drawn me to. I am earnest in expectation of your thoughts in this and greater matters, and shall be often wishing for the coming of the post to Worcester on Monday next. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful, humble servant,

J. SOMERS.”

“ I am so unfortunate as to have forgot the name of the gentleman at whose house you lodge, and therefore direct this to the Earl of M.(onmouth).”



MR. SOMERS TO MR. LOCKE.

“ SIR,

Worcester, Sept. 25, 1698.

“ I OUGHT to be out of countenance for being so long in making my acknowledgments for your two favours, which I really value so much ; but as I had nothing to write from this place, which was fit for you to read, so I wanted a proper address to you, till I learnt it from my friend Mr. Freke, in his last letter. The country, generally speaking, is extremely well disposed in relation to the Government ; but some few clergymen who have not taken the oaths, and some that have, and a very little party of such as pay them a blind obedience, use incredible diligence, by misconstructions of every thing, false stories, and spreading of libels, to infect the people. I wish heartily the friends of the Government were encouraged to use the same diligence in suppressing such doings ; for though they behave themselves with much malice, yet it is so very foolishly, that they lie as open as one could wish. I am making all possible haste to town, and hope to learn from you all that I want from my long absence. Your former favours make me bold to presume upon you, and your judgment is such that I can depend upon your instructions as the rules for my behaviour.

I am,

Your most obliged, humble servant,

J. SOMERS.”

The next eight letters are selected from the correspondence between the Earl of Peterborough and Mr. Locke ; the intervals are wide ; the date of the first being 1689, and that of the last 1703, the year before Locke's death. Lord Monmouth had been in Holland before the Revolution, and there, probably, their intimacy commenced.

“ MR. LOCKE,

Newcastle, Jan. 9, 1689.

“ I MUST begin with a description of my Lord Delamere's army ; it wanted nothing to be a complete regiment but clothes, boots, arms, horses, men, and officers : there never was any thing so scandalous as that the King should have paid near nine thousand pounds already to that rout of fellows

that have been more disorderly than any, never having all the while but one captain with them. He hath still those same champions with him that saved the nation, in the same or worse equipages than they were in the West, mounted upon just such horses, attended the protestant peer out of town. Good God ! what is the love of money ! O Roma venalis esses, &c. and so is every thing else. Who has got ten thousand pounds by the late made peer ? we take it for granted he gave no more ; he offered but fifteen for fifteen years together. Some of our Lords take their rest, others their pleasure ; my Lords Devonshire and Lumley stay here ; Mr. Wharton\* goes for Scotland. I go to-morrow for Berwick, to examine some regiments, and come back the next day to Newcastle, a pleasant journey ; at least no reproach shall lie at my door ; for I can brag that pleasure, when I am engaged in business, never made me go an hour out of my way. Direct your letters to Carlisle.

Yours,

MONMOUTH."

EARL OF MONMOUTH TO MR. LOCKE.

19th Nov. 1692.

" I AM told, that so many of your friends have sent you word how desirous they are you should come to town, that I am resolved I will not be of the number, concluding that your health obliges you to stay in the country. I am afraid of mentioning Parson's-green to you, for I find you would be importuned, if so near, to come to town, and our innocent air would be accused of the ill effects of London smoke. If your acquaintances would make you visits, and expect no returns, I would do all in my power to tempt you to a lady, who would take all possible care of you ; she has prepared you a very warm room, and if you take the resolution, which she thinks you are obliged to by your promise, you must send me word of it ; for, as your physician, you must refuse none of her prescriptions ; and she will not allow you to come up but in a glass-coach. This is no compliment ; and you can gain no admittance except my coach brings you, which I can send without the least inconvenience ; but after all, I desire you not to venture coming towards us if it may be prejudicial to your health. If you stay in the country, I will send you now and then a news-letter : our revolving

\* Mr. Wharton, the same whose song of Lullibaleo had produced such an effect on King James's army.

Government always affords us something new every three or four months ; but what would be most new and strange, would be to see it do any thing that were really for its interest ; there seems a propensity towards something like it : I fear their sullen and duller heads will not allow it. Mons. Blanquet tells us the King is grown in love with Englishmen and Whigs ; it is true, he smiles and talks with us, but Messrs. Seymour and Trevor come up the back-stairs. Mons. Dolm tells us my Lord Nottingham is a little lawyer, and no man of business ; yet the Court have taken all possible pains to prevent the petition against him, and my good Lord Mayor to set it aside broke up the court so abruptly as my Lord Sidney the Irish Parliament. I will engage no farther in politics, but being sick, am going, by way of physic, to eat a good supper, and drink your health in a glass or two of my reviving wine.

Yours,

MONMOUTH."

" MR. LOCKE.

March 25, 1693.

" SHALL we pretend more that nothing shall surprise us ? and have you heard of our late Whiggish promotion without admiration ? I cannot but confess, I rather wish we had our Whiggish laws : but however, I think there must be some consequence, not so much of our joy, as of the ill humour of the Tories, which is so apparent, and so great, that I am resolved to enjoy the satisfaction it gives me, and not lose the few moments of mirth offered us by a too nice examination. The new Secretary\* treads the stage with quite another air, than our friend ; the poor Lord-keeper† looks as if he wanted the comfort of his friends ; but the other‡ thinks he may depend on his own parts and the ability of Mr. Bridgman. Whether to congratulate with your friends, or to see the silly looks of the enemy, I suppose you will give us one week in town. There is a little philosophical apartment quite finished in the garden that expects you, and if you will let me know when you will come, it will not be the least inconvenience to me to send my coach twenty miles out of town to meet you, and may make your journey more easy, and if you would make me so, pray, Mr. Locke, be less ceremonious to your affectionate servant,

MONMOUTH."

\* The Earl of Shrewsbury.

† St. John Trevor, afterwards expelled the House of Commons for corruption.

‡ Sir John Somers.



“MR. LOCKE,

December 12, 1695.

“I CANNOT but write to you to give some ease to my ill-humour, for, though accustomed to see such follies committed, I cannot be insensible when I see them repeated, especially when the public and a friend is concerned. I was some days ago extremely pleased when the King was brought to so reasonable a resolution as to determine upon a council of trade, where some great men were to assist, but where others, with salaries of a thousand pounds a year, were to be fixed as the constant labourers. Mr. Locke being to be of the number, made me have the better opinion of the thing, and comforted me for our last disappointment upon your subject: but, according to our accustomed wisdom and prudence, when all things had been a good while adjusted, the patent ready for the seal, and some very able and honest men provided for your companions, it was impossible to get the King to sign it; but delaying it from day to day, the Parliament this day fell upon it, and are going to form such a commission, to be nominated by themselves. Our great managers surprised, were forced to run up to some in our House, others to go to Kensington, so that at last, the Secretary informs the House at the latter end of the debate, (and much consultation) that the King had just formed such a commission, with all that could be said to prevent their farther proceeding; but they all looked upon it as a trick, and all they could do was to put it to a vote for an adjournment, which, in a full House, after great exertions, they carried but by eleven: this is the effect of our gravity and prudence; what the event will be I know not, but for the little I am able, I shall endeavour. Mr. Locke may be the choice of the House, as well as the King's: if it take that course, if the ill-weather prevent you not, it were not improper you were in town; but above all things take care of yourself, without which your friends will lose the pleasure they may have in serving you. I hope we may make the House desist, and that your affair is fixed; but these unnecessary labours might be spared to those who have enough to do.

From your affectionate servant,

MONMOUTH.”

“MR. LOCKE,

August, 1697.

“You know the impatience country gentlemen have for news; we are here as fond of a Gazette as the sparks are of their mistresses with you. We lay wagers on Ponty and Revel and Conti and Saxe, to pass away

the time, instead of playing at pickett. Pray give us a letter now and then to decide who has won: this request is made you, not only by myself, but by some other of your humble friends,

PETERBOROW."

"Direct your's for me, to be left at the post-house, Chippenham, Wiltshire."

"MR. LOCKE,

September 4, 1697.

WE all return you thanks for your charitable correspondence, but the lady is a little out of humour since your last, having long ago settled the peace with the restitution of Strasburgh, and Luxemburgh, and Loraine, and sunk and destroyed all, or most of Pont squadron, not considering the generous Knight-errantry of our admirals, who scorn to beat their enemies with odds nine to five, being shameful advantage. The next letter you are pleased to write this way, address it to the lady who stays here some time longer. I hope in four or five days after you have received this, to see you in London; for I take it for granted, the Essex lady is not to attract, while the sun has so much influence,

Your most affectionate servant,

PETERBOROW."

"SIR,

Dec. 26th, 1702.

"THE lady that made you a visit with me would not let me write, till I could tell you all is gone afore, and that the first easterly wind we follow. I wish we were as sure of success as we are of your good wishes; and I assure you, Sir, I have some pretence to that from the very sincere respect and inclination I have ever had for you. Our Vigo success has a little abated our vigour, a fault too often committed by the English, and we seem not so willing as the Dutch to raise new recruits for the next campaign. I confess, (after the schoolboy fashion) I am for giving the enemy the rising blow when they are down. And I hope to convince you in the West Indies, that if Providence give us successes, we will not sleep upon them. Sir, if I make a prosperous voyage and live to come back again, I shall not have a greater pleasure than to meet you where we parted last.

Your most affectionate friend and servant,

PETERBOROW."

"The gentleman you recommended from my Lady Coverly, went this night aboard."

27th Jan. 1703.

“HAD I not with Mr. Locke left off wondering at any thing long ago, I might with surprise write this letter, and you receive with amazement, when I let you know our American expedition is fallen, as a mushroom rises in the night. I had my orders to be aboard the 16th; all my equipage and servants gone; and the 14th I was sent for to the place of Wisdom to be asked this question, whether I could not effect with three thousand men, what I was to have attempted with above double the number? I modestly confessed myself no worker of miracles; and being told that the States had desired the Dutch squadron, and land-forces might be employed upon other services, since the season was so far spent, and the wind contrary, I likewise desired they would excuse my going if the season were passed, when I was sure the force would not answer what the world expected from her Majesty’s arms and preparations so long talked of; besides, these 3000 men I was to depend upon, were but 2800 when they left Calais, and before my arrival must have been employed for four months against the French in their strongest islands, and probably reduced to half the number, at least, by disease and the accidents of war. I am sure this does not surprise you, that I refused to go to the other world loaded with empty titles, and deprived of force. These mysteries of state I will not pretend to unfold at present, but before I return to my home, I will have another meeting in Essex.

Your most faithful friend,

PETERBOROW.”

The state of the coin had for a long time very much engaged Locke’s attention; the first of his treatises upon that subject was published in 1691, and the farther consideration in 1695, for the purpose of correcting the false ideas then universally prevalent.

Whenever there is considerable distress in the public affairs,—if trade is embarrassed, if the currency is disordered, if the finances are deranged,—there are always to be found men, who from ignorance or interest, are ready to recommend what they are pleased to call the easy, practical, and natural remedies, which in the end generally aggravate the evils they were supposed to cure. Under a despotic Government, if the debts are embarrassing, or the finances



in disorder, a base coin is issued, and the defrauded creditor is compelled to submit in silence to the royal ordinance. Such was the common ordinary practice of the old French Government, and of most of the other states of Europe, whose coins have been successively deteriorated from their original standard.

In our own country, and in our own times, we have seen a Bank-Restriction Act imposed, to avoid a temporary difficulty, which deranged our affairs during a quarter of a century.

In 1695, one or perhaps all these causes of national distress were severely felt; the war had diminished the national resources, and the frauds practised for some time by the clipping the money, had considerably impaired its intrinsic value. Mr. Lowndes and the practical men of that day, recommended the usual panacea, an alteration of the standard; but those honest ministers, Lord Somers and Sir William Trumbull, the Secretary of State, knowing from the treatise on Lowering of Interest, and Raising the Value of Money, published in 1691, that Locke had turned his attention very much to those subjects, now called him to their assistance, and were guided by his advice.

Lord Keeper Somers writes to him :

“ SIR,

November, 95.

“ You will easily see by the book which was put in my hand last night, and by the title of a Report which it bears, as well as by the advertisement at the end of it, that you were in the right when you said that the alteration of the standard was the thing aimed at. The challenge at the end, if you will allow me to say so, is in some sort directed to you. The proposition which you and I discoursed upon yesterday is endeavoured to be represented impracticable. The passing of money by weight is said to be ridiculous, at least in little payments; the sudden fall of guineas will be an utter ruin to very great numbers; there is no encouragement proposed to invite people to bring the clipped money into the Mint, so that will be melted down to be transported, which will be a certain profit at least, till by a law money can be exported. And whilst this is doing nothing will

be left to carry on commerce, for no one will bring out his guineas to part with them for twenty shillings when he paid thirty shillings for them so lately. These, as I remember, were the objections made use of; and I doubt not but you will, without great difficulty, help us with some expedients for them. I believe it an easier task than to remove what I see is so fixed, the project of alteration of the standard.

I am,  
Your most humble servant,  
J. SOMERS."

In the "Farther Consideration on raising the value of Money," published 1695, addressed to Sir John Somers, he endeavoured to strip the question of hard, obscure, and "doubtful words wherewith men are often misled and mislead others." He condemns the nefarious project of raising the denomination and altering the standard as a fraud upon all creditors, and justly considers it as "THE MEANS OF CONFOUNDING THE PROPERTY OF THE SUBJECT, AND DISTURBING AFFAIRS TO NO PURPOSE."

The advice of Locke was followed, and the great recoinage of 1695 restored the current money of the country to the full legal standard.

The difference between the embarrassments which affected the currency in the reign of King William, and those which have occurred in our own time, may be thus stated: the coin at the period first mentioned, had been deteriorated by the frauds of individuals and the neglect of the public, but when the evil was felt, and the remedy pointed out, the Parliament, notwithstanding the pressure of the war and the false theories of the practical men of those days, applied the proper remedy at the proper time before any great permanent debt had been incurred. In our own time the depreciation of the currency was entirely to be attributed to the Bank and the Government. The paper-money of a banking company, without the one indispensable condition of security against excesses, *payment*

*in specie on demand*, was in an evil hour substituted in place of the King's lawful coin; and in order that the Minister might avoid the imputation of being an unskilful financier, who borrowed money on unfavourable terms, a debt of unexampled magnitude was accumulated in a debased currency, to be ultimately discharged by payment in specie at the full and lawful standard. It must be confessed that by the tardy act of retributive justice, which was passed in 1819, the punishment inflicted upon the nation was in the exact proportion to the former deviations from good faith and sound principle, and we may at least hope that the severity of the penalty will prevent for the future a repetition of the same folly.

Respecting the other subject of the treatise, viz. "Consideration on lowering the rate of Interest," the author asks this question: "Whether the price of the hire of money can be regulated by law?" The same question after the lapse of 130 years, we may still continue to repeat with the same success. He then shows that the attempt "to regulate the rate of interest will increase the difficulty of borrowing, and prejudice none but those who need assistance."

In the same year he was appointed to a seat at the Council of Trade. Sir John Somers writes to inform him of the King's nomination, and to make excuse for using his name without his "express consent."

Sir Wm. Trumbull communicates the same appointment by the following letter.

"SIR,

Whitehall, May 19, 1696.

"Besides my particular obligations to thank you for your kind letter to me, I am now to call upon you in behalf of the public, whose service requires your help, and consequently your attendance in town. The Council of Trade (whereof you are most worthily appointed a member,) must go on with effect, or the greatest inconveniences and mischief will follow. I hope your health will permit you to come and make some stay here; and what reluctancy soever you may have to appear among us, I



know your love to your country, and your great zeal for our common interests will overcome it, so that I will trouble you no farther till I can have the happiness of seeing you here, and assuring you by word of mouth that I am unalterably

Your most faithful humble servant,

WILLIAM TRUMBULL.

“ My wife will have me send her humble service to you.”

After holding the appointment at the Board of Trade for a short time, his increasing infirmities made him wish to resign it, and he communicated his intention to Lord Keeper Somers, by letter, dated 7th Jan., 1696-7.

“ MY LORD,

“ Some of my brethren, I understand, think my stay in the country long, and desire me to return to bear my part, and to help to dispatch the multitude of business that the present circumstances of trade and the plantations fill their hands with. I cannot but say they are in the right; and I cannot but think, at the same time, that I also am in the right to stay in the country, where all my care is little enough to preserve those small remains of health, which a settled and incurable indisposition would quickly make an end of anywhere else.

“ There remains, therefore, nothing else to be done but that I should cease to fill up any longer a place that requires a more constant attendance than my strength will allow; and to that purpose, I prevail with your Lordship to move his Majesty, that he would be pleased to ease me of the employment he has been so graciously pleased to honour me with, since the crazyness of my body so ill seconds the inclination I have to serve him in it, and I find myself every way incapable of answering the ends of that commission. I am not insensible of the honour of that employment, nor how much I am obliged to your Lordship's favourable opinion in putting me into a post, which I look upon as one of the most considerable in England. I can say that nobody has more warm wishes for the prosperity of his country than I have; but the opportunity of showing those good wishes, in being any way serviceable to it, I find comes too late to a man whose health is inconsistent with the business, and in whom it would be folly to hope for

a return to that vigour and strength which such an employment I see requires. It is not without due consideration that I represent this to your Lordship, and that I find myself obliged humbly and earnestly to request your Lordship to obtain for me a dismissal out of it. I wish your Lordship many happy new years, and am, with the utmost acknowledgment and respect."

## LORD KEEPER SOMERS TO MR. LOCKE.

" SIR,

26th Jan. 1696-7.

" My great fatigue, joined with a very great indisposition, must make my excuse for being so slow in returning an answer to your very obliging letter. I am very sorry for your ill health, which confines you to the country for the present; but now you will have so much regard to yourself, your friends, and your country, as not to think of returning to business till you are recovered to such a competent degree, as not to run the hazard of a relapse. As to the other part of your letter, which relates to the quitting the Commission, I must say you are much in the wrong, in my opinion, to entertain a thought of it; and I flatter myself so far as to believe I could bring you over to my sentiments, if I had the happiness of half an hour's conversation with you. These being my thoughts, you cannot wonder if I am not willing to enter upon the commission you give me, of saying something to the King of your purpose. But when the new commission is made, and the establishment fixed, and the Parliament up, and you have had the opinion of your friends here, I will submit to act as you shall command me. In the mean time give me leave to say, that no man alive has a greater value for you, nor is, with more sincerity than myself,

Sir,

Your most faithful servant,

J. SOMERS."

## DRAFT OF LOCKE'S ANSWER TO LORD KEEPER SOMERS.

" MY LORD,

Feb. 1, 1696-7.

" I know nobody that can with so much right promise himself to bring me over to his sentiments as your Lordship, for I know not any one that has such a master-reason to prevail as your Lordship, nor any one to whom,

without attending the convictions of that reason, that I am so much disposed to submit to with implicit faith. Your Lordship, I perceive, from several positions takes a different view of the same thing; and since your Lordship, who always speaks reason, is always also ready to hear it, I promise myself that the propositions I made would not appear to your Lordship altogether unfit, had I an opportunity to offer to your Lordship all the considerations that moved and hold me to it. The obliging promise your Lordship has been pleased to make me in the honour of yours of the 25th of January, that when I have had your Lordship's opinion, you will not refuse me the favour I have asked, if I shall then continue my request, sets me at rest for the present; and a word from your Lordship that you will have the goodness to let me have notice time enough to lay before your Lordship what weighs with me in the case, before any thing can be done either in making a new commission, or fixing the establishment, will ease your Lordship of any farther importunity from me; and then I who am so much in your favour, shall not alone of all the subjects of England, apprehend that, upon a fair hearing, your Lordship will not allow the equity of my case. Untoward health, which complies no more with good manners than with other obligations, must be my excuse to your Lordship for this last, as well as it was a great cause of my first request to you in this affair. If my ill lungs would permit me now presently, (as becomes me) to come to town and wait there the opportunity of discoursing your Lordship, I should not have reason as I have to desire to quit this employment. The great indulgence your Lordship expresses to my infirm constitution, makes me hope it will extend itself farther; it cannot, I think, do less than make your Lordship bethink yourself of a man to substitute in the place of a shadow. I cannot make an equal return to your Lordship's concerns for my health, since my country's welfare is so much interested in your Lordship's preservation, mixing with my concern for your late indisposition, will not suffer my good wishes for the confirmation of your strength to be purely personal to your Lordship, though nobody can be more than I am, &c. &c."

In the following year King William ordered Locke to attend him at Kensington, desirous to employ him again in the public service. However flattering the King's intention towards him must



have been, the state of his health prevented him from accepting the honour that was designed him: he writes to the Lord Chancellor Somers, probably from Oates.

“ MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,

Jan. 28, 1697-8.

“ Sunday, in the evening, after I had waited on the King, I went to wait upon your Lordship, it being, I understood, his Majesty’s pleasure I should do so before I returned hither. My misfortune in missing your Lordship I hoped to repair by an early diligence the next morning, but the night that came between destroyed that purpose and me almost with it. For, when I was laid in my bed, my breath failed me; I was fain to sit up in my bed, where I continued a good part of the night, with hopes that my shortness of breath would abate, and my lungs grow so good-natured as to let me lie down to get a little sleep, whereof I had great need; but my breath constantly failing me as often as I laid my head upon my pillow, at three I got up, and sat by the fire till morning. My case being brought to this extremity, there was no room for any other thought but to get out of town immediately; for, after the two precedent nights without any rest, I concluded the agonies I laboured under so long in the second of those, would hardly fail to be my death the third, if I stayed in town. As bad weather, therefore, as it was, I was forced early on Monday morning to set out and return hither.

“ His Majesty was so favourable as to propose the employment your Lordship mentioned; but the true knowledge of my own weak state of health made me beg his Majesty to think of some fitter person, and more able, to serve him in that important post; to which I added my want of experience for such business. That your Lordship may not think this an expression barely of modesty, I crave leave to explain it to your Lordship, (though there I discover my weakness,) that my temper, always shy of a crowd of strangers, has made my acquaintances few, and my conversation too narrow and particular, to get the skill of dealing with men in their various humours, and drawing out their secrets. Whether this was a fault or no to a man that designed no bustle in the world, I know not. I am sure it will let your Lordship see that I am too much a novice in the world for the employment proposed.

“ Though we are so oddly placed here, that we have no ordinary conveyance for our letters from Monday till Friday, yet this delay has not fallen out much amiss. The King was graciously pleased to order me to go into the country to take care of my health: these four or five days here have given me a proof to what a low state my lungs are now brought, and how little they can bear the least shock. I can lie down again, indeed, in my bed, and take my rest; but, bating that, I find the impression of these two days in London so heavy upon me still, which extends farther than the painfulness of breathing, and makes me listless to every thing, so that methinks the writing this letter has been a great performance.

“ My Lord, I should not trouble you with an account of the prevailing decays of an old pair of lungs, were it not my duty to take care his Majesty should not be disappointed, and, therefore, that he lay not any expectation on that, which, to my great misfortune, every way, I find would certainly fail him; and I must beg your Lordship, for the interest of the public, to prevail with his Majesty to think on somebody else, since I do not only fear, but am sure, my broken health will never permit me to accept the great honour his Majesty meant me. As it would be unpardonable to betray the King's business, by undertaking what I should be unable to go through; so it would be the greatest madness to put myself out of the reach of my friends during the small time I am to linger in this world, only to die a little more rich, or a little more advanced. He must have a heart strongly touched with wealth, or honours, who, at my age, and labouring for breath, can find any great relish for either of them.”

King William, who was subject to the same asthmatic complaint, is said to have conversed with Locke respecting his treatment of his own disorders. The King, when he was told that a very strict abstinence afforded the only relief, acknowledged that the advice was very good, but, like other patients, did not resort to that disagreeable remedy. Having refused the employment which the King had designed for him, he now determined to resign that which he for some years held, and for the same reason.

The asthmatic complaint, to which he had been long subject, making a continued residence in London, particularly during the

winter season, very distressing to him, he had for some years taken up his abode with Sir F. and Lady Masham, at Oates, near Ongar, in Essex, where he was perfectly at home, and enjoyed the society most agreeable to him; as Lady Masham, the daughter of Cudworth, is said to have been a woman of great sense and of most agreeable manners. Their intimacy seems to have been of long standing by the following letter of Locke to her brother, Mr. Cudworth, dated 1683, which is interesting, as it affords a proof of the great activity of his mind in the search for every sort of knowledge.

“ SIR,

London, 27th April, 1683.

“ THOUGH you are got quite to the other side of the world, yet you cease not to make new acquisitions here; and the character you have left behind you, makes your acquaintance be sought after to the remotest parts of the earth. There is a commerce of friendship as well as merchandise; and though nobody, almost, lets his thoughts go so far as the East Indies, without a design of getting money and growing rich, yet, if you allow my intentions, I hope to make a greater advantage by another sort of correspondence with you there. In the conversation I have had the happiness to have sometimes with your sister here, I have observed her often to speak of you with more tenderness and concern than all the rest of the world, which has made me conclude it must be something extraordinary in you which has raised in her (who is so good a judge) so particular an esteem and affection, beyond what is due to the bare ties of nature and blood. And I cannot but think that your souls are akin, as well as your bodies, and that yours, as well as hers, is not of the ordinary alloy. I account it none of the least favours she has done me, that she has promised me your friendship; and you must not think it strange, if I presume upon her word, and trouble you with some inquiries concerning the country you are in, since she encourages me in it, and assures me I shall not fail of an answer.

“ Some of those who have travelled, and writ of those parts, give us strange stories of the tricks done by some of their jugglers there, which must needs be beyond legerdemain, and seems not within the power of art or nature. I would very gladly know whether they are really done as strange as they are reported; and whether those that practise them are any of them Mahometans, or all (which I rather suppose) heathens, and how they



are looked on by the Bramins, and the other people of the country ; whether they have any apparitions amongst them, and what thoughts of spirits ; and as much of the opinions, religion, and ceremonies of the Hindoos and other heathens of those countries, as comes in your way to learn and inquire. It would be too great kindness, if you could learn any news of any copies of the Old or New Testament, or any parts of them, which they had amongst them, in any language, in those Eastern countries, before the Europeans traded thither by the Cape of Good Hope. I should trouble you also with inquiries concerning their languages, learning, government, manners, and particularly Aureng Zebe, the Emperor of Hindostan, since I could promise myself a more exact account from you than what we have in printed travels ; but I fear I have been more troublesome than what you will imagine will become a man that does but now begin to beg your acquaintance. If I have trespassed herein, you must excuse it to the little distinction I make between you and your sister ; you must conclude I forgot myself, and thought I was talking to, and (as I used to do) learning something of her ; and 'tis to the same account I must beg you to place the obligation you will lay on me, by procuring and sending hither an answer to the inclosed letter, directed to Mrs. Richards ; her husband died going to the East Indies, in a ship that set out hence about Christmas was twelve-months, where he was to have been factor, somewhere in the Bay of Bengal, for the Company. His wife and two daughters, who were with him, went on their voyage ; where she settled herself, and remains now, you will easily know. I beg the favour of you to get the inclosed conveyed to her, and an answer from her, which be pleased to direct to be left for me either with Mr. P. Percevall, at the Black Boy, in Lombard-street, or Mr. S. Cox, at the Iron Key, in Thames-street, London.

“ And now, having been thus free with you, 'tis in vain to make apologies for it ; if you allow your sister to dispose of your friendship, you will not take it amiss that I have looked upon myself as in possession of what she has bestowed on me ; or that I begin my conversation with you with a freedom and familiarity suitable to an established amity and acquaintance ; besides, if, at this distance, we should set out, according to the forms of ceremony, our correspondence would proceed with a more grave and solemn pace than the treaties of Princes, and we must spend some years in the very preliminaries. He that, in his first address, should only put off his hat and make a leg, and say your servant, to a man at the other end of the world,

may, (if the winds set right,) and the ships come home safe, and bring back the return of his compliment, may, I say, in two or three years, perhaps, attain to something that looks like the beginning of an acquaintance, and by the next Jubilee there may be hopes of some conversation between them. Sir, you see what a blunt fellow your sister has recommended to you ; as far removed from the ceremonies of the Eastern people you are amongst, as from their country ; but one that, with great truth and sincerity, says to you,

I am, &c.

J. L."

" One thing, which I had forgot, give me leave to add, which is a great desire to know how the several people of the East keep their account of time, as months and years ; and whether they generally agree in using periods answering to our weeks ; and whether their arithmetic turns at ten as ours doth."

The following letters are selected from a very great number written by Locke to his relation Mr. King, afterwards Lord Chancellor, and found amongst his papers.

TO P. KING, ESQ. M. P. MIDDLE TEMPLE, LONDON.

" DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, July 3d, 98.

" I AM glad that you are so well entered at the bar ; it is my advice to you to go on so gently by degrees, and to speak only in things that you are perfectly master of, till you have got a confidence and habit of talking at the bar. I have many reasons for it which I shall discover to you when I see you. This warm day, (which has been the third that I have been able this year yet to pass without a fire,) gives me hopes that the comfortable weather which I have long wished for is setting in, that I may venture to town in a few days, for I would not take a journey thither to be driven out again presently, as I am sure our late cold weather would have done, for my lungs are yet very weak.

" I have writ to my Lord Pembroke, because you desire it, and because I understand by you that Mr. Edwards desires it ; you will see what I have writ, but it is by no means fit that Mr. Edwards should see my letter, for I have in it kept to the measures I always observe in such cases, and which have gained some credit to my recommendation, though it does not always

content candidates, if one says no more than what one knows. If you deliver it, pray let it be with my most humble service; if you do not deliver it, pray burn it.

“ My lady, &c. give you their service.

I am, dear cousin,

Your most affectionate

J. LOCKE.”

“ DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, March 1st, 1701.

“ IN compliance with yours of yesterday, I write this evening with intention to send my letter to Harlow to-morrow morning, that Mr. Harrison may, if possible, find some way of conveyance of it to you before to-morrow night. The family and other circumstances have no exception, and the person I have heard commended, but yet the objection made is considerable. I think the young gentleman concerned ought to manage it so as to be well satisfied whether that be what he can well bear, and will consist with the comfort and satisfaction he proposes to himself in that state before he seem to hearken to any such proposal, so that he may avoid what he cannot consent to, without any appearance of a refusal. For to make a visit upon such proposal, though it be designed without any consequence and offered to be contrived as of chance, is yet a sort of address; and then going no further, whatever is said will be ill taken of her friends, and consequently the whole family be disobliged, which will have ill consequences, and therefore should be avoided: for whatever reason a man may have to refuse a woman that is offered him, it must never be known that it was any thing in her person; such a discovery makes a mortal quarrel. If he that proposed it be the confidant of the young gentleman, and can be relied on by him, and has said nothing of it to her friends, he possibly may contrive an unsuspected interview, and is the fittest person to do it; if not, the young man must find some other way to satisfy himself that may not be discovered. A friend of mine in Jermyn-street, who missed you narrowly when you came last from Exeter, knows her well; but an inquiry there must be managed with great dexterity to avoid suspicion of the matter, and consequently talking of it. You shall be sure to hear from me in the matter before you go out of town, if you persist in the mind of going.

I am your most affectionate cousin,

and humble servant,

JOHN LOCKE.”



“ DEAR COUSIN,

Jan. 27, 1700.

“ I AM as positive as I can be in any thing that you should not think of going the next circuit. I do not in the mean time forget your calling; but what this one omission may be of loss to you, may be made up otherwise. I am sure there was never so critical a time when every honest Member of Parliament ought to watch his trust, and that you will see before the end of the next vacation. I therefore expect in your next a positive promise to stay in town. I tell you you will not, you shall not repent it. I cannot answer the other parts of your letter, lest I say nothing to you at all this post, and I must not omit by it to put an end to the remainder of your wavering about your going the circuit. I shall enlarge in my next.

And am, yours,

J. L.”

“ DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, Jan. 31, 1700.

“ HAVING no time but for a few words the last post, it is fit I now answer the other particulars of your letter, which I then was forced to omit. Your staying in town the next vacation I look upon as resolved, and the reasons I find for it in your own letters, now that I have time to read them a little more deliberately, I think sufficient to determine you should, though I say nothing at all. Every time I think of it I am more and more confirmed in the opinion that it is absolutely necessary in all respects, whether I consider the public or your own private concerns, neither of which are indifferent to me. It is my private thought that the Parliament will scarce sit even so much as to choose a Speaker before the end of the term; but whenever he is chosen, it is of no small consequence which side carries it, if there be two nominated, or at least in view, as it is ten to one there will be, especially in a Parliament chosen with so much struggle. Having given all the help possibly you can in this, which is usually a leading point, showing the strength of the parties, my next advice to you is not to speak at all in the House for some time, whatever fair opportunity you may seem to have: but though you keep your mouth shut, I doubt not but you will have your eyes open to see the temper, and observe the motions of the House, and diligently to remark the skill of management, and carefully watch the first and secret beginnings of things, and their tendencies, and endeavour, if there be danger in them, to crush them in the egg. You will say, what can you do who are not to speak? It is

true I would not have you speak to the House, but you may communicate your light or apprehensions to some honest speaker who may make use of it; for there have always been very able members who never speak, who yet by their penetration and foresight have this way done as much service as any within those walls. And hereby you will more recommend yourself when people shall observe so much modesty joined with your parts and judgment, than if you should seem forward though you spoke well. But let the man you communicate with be not only well-intentioned, but a man of judgment. Methinks I take too much upon me in these directions; I have only then to say in my excuse, that you desired it more than once, and I advise you nothing I would not do myself were I in your place. I should have much more to say to you were you here, but it being fitter for discourse than for letter, I hope I may see you here ere long, Sir Francis having already proposed to me your stealing down sometimes with him on Saturday, and returning Monday. The votes you offer me will be very acceptable, and for some time at least during the busy season I would be glad you would send me, every post, the three newspapers, viz. Postman, Postboy, and Flying Post; but when you begin to send them you will do me a kindness to stop Mr. Churchill from sending me any more, for he sends them now; but it is by the butcher they come, and very uncertainly. But when you send me these papers, do not think you are bound always to write to me; though I am always glad to hear from you, yet I must not put that penance upon you. Things of moment I doubt not but you will let me know.

I am your affectionate cousin,  
J. L."

"DEAR COUSIN,

Feb. 7th, 1700.

"I AM glad to find by yours of the 30th Jan. that you are resolved to stay; your own resolution in case of unforeseen accidents will always be in your power, or if you will make me your compliment that you will not go without my leave, you may be sure that in any unforeseen and pressing occasion that may happen that may make it necessary for you, you will not only have my leave, but my persuasion to go: but as things are, I think it for your interest to stay. If you have read the two parts of the Duke of Anjou's Succession Considered, pray tell me your opinion of it.

"Just now, I received yours of the 4th; whether you should frequent the meeting of the Rose I know not, till I know who they are that meet there.

“ I think your cousin’s advice about Bank bills and East India bonds is right. I wish the cash you have of mine were turned into guineas ; in that specie it will be fitter to lodge any where, as there shall be occasion. I hope with you it is very secure where it is, and I cannot desire you should do better for me than for yourself ; so that I shall rest satisfied whatever may happen, being confident you do for me as for yourself. Pray put in the Gazette with the other newspapers you send me.

Your affectionate cousin and humble servant,

J. LOCKE.”

“ DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, Feb. 29th, 1701.

“ You need not make apologies for not precisely answering my letters : I can easily conceive your hands full of late. When you see my Lord Shaftesbury again, pray, with my most humble service, let him know that though the honour of a visit from him be what I could not in good manners ask, yet there is nothing I have for this good while more earnestly longed for, than an opportunity of kissing his hands ; and since he owns so favourable an intention, that of coming hither, my Lady Masham and I, are in impatient expectation of it.

“ I believe Sir H. Furne’s case might afford you fit occasion to speak in a matter which, being law, you might be fully master of. I am very glad the ice is broke, and that it has succeeded so well ; but now you have showed the House that you can speak, I advise you to let them see you can hold your peace, and let nothing but some point of law, which you are perfectly clear in, or the utmost necessity, call you up again.

“ When you go to the meeting of those gentlemen you mention, I think you should say as little as possible as to public affairs, but behave yourself rather as one unversed, and a learner in such matters. And your other business in the law will be an excuse, if you are not there every night, and you may always learn the next day what was debated there the night before.

“ You will do me a kindness to send me word what is done in the House of Lords, and which way at any time they move with regard to public things on foot.

“ I am glad to hear it said that the House seems in a good disposition, and resolved to support England against France ; but wonder at myself for saying I am glad, it being prodigious for any one to think it could ever



be otherwise. And yet I find some here wonder, that whilst the King of France makes such a mighty collection of forces in Flanders just over against us, we hear not of raising any land-forces on this side the water, especially since the printed papers mention transport ships drawn together about Calais and that way. If his fleet should be ready before ours, (which God forbid !) what will your thirty thousand seamen signify.

I am, dear cousin, your's,

J. LOCKE."

"The transactions also of the Convocation are worth observing: pray tell me is Dr. Kennet's answer to Mr. Atterbury worth the reading? if it be, pray speak to Mr. Churchill when he comes in your way, to send it me."

"DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, March 3rd.

"I IMAGINE by what you say of the circuit, that you have not duly considered the state in which we are now placed. Pray reflect upon it well, and then tell me whether you can think of being a week together absent from your trust in Parliament, till you see the main point settled, and the kingdom in a posture of defence against the ruin that threatens it. The reason why I pressed you to stay in town was, to give the world a testimony how much you preferred the public to your private interest, and how true you were to any trust you undertook; this is no small character, nor of small advantage to a man coming into the world. Besides, I thought it no good husbandry for a man to get a few fees on circuit, and lose Westminster Hall. For I assure you, Westminster Hall is at stake, and I wonder how any one of the House can sleep till he sees England in a better state of defence, and how he can talk of any thing else till that is done. Pray read the pamphlet I sent you by M. Coste; of the rest, you and I shall talk when I see you here: the sooner the better.

I am your affectionate

J. L."

"DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, 3rd Jan. 1701-2.

"I HAVE received the prints you sent me; I have read the King's speech, which is so gracious, and expresses so high concern for the religion, freedom, and interest of his people, that methinks that besides what the two Houses will do or have already done, the city of London and counties of England, and all those who have so lately addressed him, cannot do less than

with joined hearts and hands return him addresses of thanks for his taking such care of them. Think of this with yourself, and think of it with others who can and ought to think, how to save us out of the hands of France, into which we must fall, unless the whole nation exert its utmost vigour, and that speedily. Pray send me the King's speech printed by itself, and without paring off the edges ; a list also of the members, if there be yet any one printed complete and perfect.

I am dear cousin,  
Affectionately, &c.  
J. L."

" DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, 27th Feb. 1701-2.

" I AM more pleased with what you did for the public the day of your last letter, than for any thing you have done for me in my private affairs, though I am very much beholden to you for that too. You will guess by all my letters to you of late, how acceptable to me is the news of your not going out of town the beginning of the next week. You see what need there is of every one's presence, and how near things come. Do not at this time lose a week by going to Winchester or Salisbury. You think the crisis is over ; but you know the men indefatigable and always intent on opportunity, and that will make new crises ; be but absent and afford occasion. I conclude, therefore, that you will stay at least a week longer ; and let me tell you it can, it will, it shall be no loss to you.

Your affectionate cousin,  
JOHN LOCKE."

\* \* \*

" Oates, 5th April, 1701.

" I CONFESS I do not see if we stick to our proposals, which the Dutch and we have given in, how a war can be avoided ; and if we do not obtain that security, the Dutch and we must be lost. The House of Lords in their address are clear in that point, and I think every body sees it. The good King of France desires only that you would take his word, and let him be quiet till he has got the West Indies into his hands, and his grandson well established in Spain ; and then you may be sure you shall be as safe as he will let you be, in your religion, property, and trade. To all which, who can be such an infidel as not to believe him a great friend ?

" I am glad Lord Shaftesbury and you talk of coming at Easter, there will then be some kind of vacancy."

“ DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, 4th Nov. 1702.

“ HAD not my health with strong hand held me back from such a journey at this time of the year, especially to London, I had certainly upon reading my Lord Peterborough’s message to me in your letter, obeyed my inclination and come to kiss his hands before he went ; nor could the considerations of my health have hindered me, nor the remonstrances of my friends here against it, if I could have seen any thing wherein I could by waiting upon him have done any service to his Lordship. As it is, there is nothing I have borne so uneasily from the decays of age, my troublesome ear, my breathless lungs, and my being unable to stir, as the being stopped paying my respects in person, upon his going upon such an expedition. And yet I know not what I could do were I now in London, but intrude myself unseasonably amidst a crowd of business, and rob him uselessly of some of his time, at a season when he cannot, I know, have a minute to spare. But when I have said and resolved all this, I find myself dissatisfied in not seeing of him ; and ’tis a displeasure will rest upon my mind, and add weight to that of those infirmities that caused it. If I could hope that in this my state of confinement and impotency, there was any thing remained that might be useful to his Lordship, that would be some comfort and relief to me. And if he would let me know wherein I might be any way serviceable to him in his absence, it would make me put some value upon the little remainder of my life. And dear cousin, if you could, before my Lord goes, find an opportunity to wait upon him, and say something to him from me to the purport above written, you would do me a singular kindness.

“ Let me hear from you by the first opportunity.

Your affectionate cousin,

J. LOCKE.”

“ DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, 23rd Nov. 1702.

“ IF you had come (as it seems you talked) with my Lord Peterborough, you had saved him the going several miles out of the way, and I had seen you ; but you had business, and I wonder not at it. I must trouble you once more to wait upon my Lord or Lady Peterborough in my name, with the return of my humble service and thanks for the honour they have done me, and my inquiries how they do after their journey. I hope you will



have an opportunity of going so far as Bow-street to-morrow, that I may hear from you how they do. I was much in pain about their getting to town now the days are so short; your letter saying nothing of them, makes me presume they got safe; it would else have made a noise. Pray in your letter write whether my Lord Marlborough be yet come or no. I beg your pardon for this trouble, and excuse it this once more,

And believe that I am your affectionate

“ All here greet you.”

J. L.”

“ DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, April 30, 1703.

“ I AM puzzled in a little affair, and must beg your assistance for the clearing of it. Mr. Newton, in Autumn last, made me a visit here; I showed him my Essay upon the Corinthians, with which he seemed very well pleased, but had not time to look it all over, but promised me if I would send it him, he would carefully peruse it, and send me his observations and opinion. I sent it him before Christmas, but hearing nothing from him, I, about a month or six weeks since, writ to him, as the inclosed tells you, with the remaining part of the story. When you have read it, and sealed it, I desire you to deliver it at your convenience. He lives in German St.: you must not go on a Wednesday, for that is his day for being at the Tower. The reason why I desire you to deliver it to him yourself is, that I would fain discover the reason of his so long silence. I have several reasons to think him truly my friend, but he is a nice man to deal with, and a little too apt to raise in himself suspicions where there is no ground; therefore, when you talk to him of my papers, and of his opinion of them, pray do it with all the tenderness in the world, and discover if you can, why he kept them so long, and was so silent. But this you must do without asking why he did so, or discovering in the least that you are desirous to know. You will do well to acquaint him, that you intend to see me at Whitsuntide, and shall be glad to bring a letter to me from him, or any thing else he will please to send; this perhaps may quicken him, and make him despatch these papers if he has not done it already. It may a little let you into the freer discourse with him, if you let him know that when you have been here with me, you have seen me busy on them (and the Romans too, if he mentions them, for I told him I was upon them when he was here) and have had a sight of some part of what I was doing.

“ Mr. Newton is really a very valuable man, not only for his wonderful skill in mathematics, but in divinity too, and his great knowledge in the Scriptures, wherein I know few his equals. And therefore pray manage the whole matter so as not only to preserve me in his good opinion, but to increase me in it, and be sure to press him to nothing, but what he is forward in himself to do. In your last, you seemed desirous of my coming to town; I have many reasons to desire to be there, but I doubt whether ever I shall see it again. Take not this for a splenetic thought; I thank God I have no melancholy on that account, but I cannot but feel what I feel; my shortness of breath is so far from being relieved by the renewing season of the year as it used to be, that it sensibly increases upon me. 'Twas not therefore in a fit of dispiritedness, or to prevail with you to let me see you, that in my former I mentioned the shortness of the time I thought I had in this world. I spoke it then, and repeat it now upon sober and sedate consideration. I have several things to talk to you of, and some of present concernment to yourself, and I know not whether this may not be my last time of seeing you. I shall not die the sooner for having cast up my reckoning, and judging as impartially of my state as I can. I hope I shall not live one jot the less cheerfully the time that I am here, nor neglect any of the offices of life whilst I have it; for whether it be a month, or a year, or seven years longer, the longest any one out of kindness or compliment can propose to me, is so near nothing when considered, and in respect of eternity, that if the sight of death can put an end to the comforts of life, it is always near enough, especially to one of my age, to have no satisfaction in living.

I am your affectionate cousin,

And humble servant,

J. L.”

“ DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, April 23, 1703.

“ I TOLD you that the Term had got you, nor am I dissatisfied that you mind your business; but I do not well bear it that you speak so doubtfully of making yourself and me a holiday at Whitsuntide. I do not count upon much time in this world, and therefore you will not blame me, (if you think right of me) for desiring to see and enjoy you as much as I can, and having

your company as much as your business will permit : besides that, I think some intervals of ease and air are necessary for you."

"DEAR COUSIN,

Oates, Nov. 15, 1703.

"I TAKE very kindly your offer of coming hither : your kindness makes me very willing to see and enjoy you, but at the same time, it makes me the more cautious to disturb your business ; however, since you allow me the liberty, you may be assured, if there be occasion, I shall send for you.

"I am troubled at the news from Turkey, for though I think I shall be gone before any storm from thence can reach hither, yet you and my friends and my country, whilst I have any thought, will be dear to me. As to my lungs, they go on their course, and though they have brought me now to be good for nothing, I am not surprised at it ; they have lasted longer already than the world or I expected ; how much longer they will be able to blow at the hard rate they do, I cannot precisely say. But in the race of human life, when breath is wanting for the least motion, one cannot be far from one's journey's end.

Your affectionate cousin,

And humble servant,

J. L."

"Dec. 4, 1703.

"If Sir Cloudesly Shovel and the men-of-war that went out of the Downs with him are lost, and the storm has that effect upon us and the Dutch, that the King of Spain cannot go between this and Christmas to Portugal, as was concerted, what other thing can be reasonable to be done, but to keep ready money by you for any exigence that may happen ; there you have in short my measures. I would not, I confess, part with a penny for parchment or paper securities of any kind, till I could see what is like to come of the terrible shock."

"Oates, June 1, 1704.

"I have received no letters from you since the 20th. I remember it is the end of a Term, a busy time with you, and you intend to be here speedily, which is better than writing at a distance. Pray be sure to order your matters so as to spend all the next week with me : as far as I can impartially guess, it will be the last week I am ever like to have with you ;



for if I mistake not very much, I have very little time left in the world. This comfortable, and to me usually restorative season of the year, has no effect upon me for the better : on the contrary, my shortness of breath, and uneasiness, every day increases; my stomach, without any visible cause, sensibly decays, so that all appearances concur to warn me, that the dissolution of this cottage is not far off. Refuse not, therefore, to help me to pass some of the last hours of my life as easily as may be in the conversation of one who is not only the nearest, but the dearest to me, of any man in the world. I have a great many things to talk to you, which I can talk to nobody else about. I therefore desire you again, deny not this to my affection. I know nothing at such a time so desirable, and so useful, as the conversation of a friend one loves and relies on. It is a week free from business, or if it were not, perhaps you would have no reason to repent the bestowing a day or two upon me. Make haste, therefore, on Saturday, and be here early : I long till I see you. I writ to you in my last, to bring some cherries with you, but fear they will be troublesome to you ; and these things that entertain the senses, have lost with me a great part of their relish ; therefore, give not yourself any trouble about them ; such desires are usually but the fancyseeking pleasure in one thing, when it has missed it in another, and seeks in vain for the delight which the indisposition of the body has put an end to. When I have your company, I shall forget these kind of things.

I am, dear cousin,

Your most affectionate,

J. LOCKE."

It was probably in this calm and philosophic temper of mind that he wrote the epitaph, which was afterwards placed upon his tomb, at High Laver.

"Siste, viator ; juxta situs est \* \* \* \*. Si qualis fuerit rogas, mediocritate suâ contentum se vixisse respondet. Literis innutritus, eousque tantum profecit ut veritati unicè studeret. Hoc ex scriptis illius disce ; quæ, quod de eo reliquum est, majori fide tibi exhibebunt, quam epitaphii suspecta elogia. Virtutes si quas habuit, minores sane quam quas sibi laudi, tibi in exemplum proponeret. Vitia una sepeliantur, morum exemplum si quæras in Evangelio

habes, (vitiorum utinam nusquam,) mortalitatis certè quod prosit hic et ubique.

“Natum \* \* \*

“Mortuum \* \* \*

“Memorat hac tabula brevi et ipsa interitura.”

During the last four years of his life, increasing infirmities confined him to the retirement he had chosen at Oates, near High Laver, in Essex; and although labouring under an incurable disorder, he was cheerful to the last, constantly interested in the welfare of his friends, and at the same time perfectly resigned to his own fate. His literary occupation at that time was the study of and Commentary on St. Paul's Epistles, published amongst his posthumous works.

In October, 1704, his disorder greatly increased: on the 27th of that month Lady Masham not finding him in his study as usual, went to his bedside, when he told her that the fatigue of getting up the day before had been too much for his strength, and that he never expected to rise again from his bed. He said that he had now finished his career in this world, and that in all probability he should not outlive the night, certainly not to be able to survive beyond the next day or two. After taking some refreshment, he said to those present that he wished them all happiness after he was gone. To Lady Masham, who remained with him, he said that he thanked God he had passed a happy life, but that now he found that all was vanity, and exhorted her to consider this world only as a preparation for a better state hereafter. He would not suffer her to sit up with him, saying, that perhaps he might be able to sleep, but if any change should happen, he would send for her. Having no sleep in the night, he was taken out of bed and carried into his study, where he slept for some time in his chair: after waking, he desired to be dressed, and then heard Lady Masham read the Psalms, apparently with great attention, until perceiving his end to draw near, he stopped her, and expired a very few

minutes afterwards, about three o'clock in the evening of the 28th October, in his 73d year.

When we consider the number of his publications as well as the subjects which he discusses, it is evident that his application must have been very great, and to enumerate his works will prove his surprising industry. His great work, the *Essay on Human Understanding*, was first published in 1690, nearly at the same time as Newton's *Principia*, both contributing to render illustrious the era of the Revolution. The *Treatise on Civil Government*, a *Letter for Toleration*, first published in Latin, in Holland, and afterwards in English, with the second *Letter in defence of Toleration*, were all published in 1690, and a third *Letter* in 1692. The *Treatise on Education*,\* 1690; that concerning raising the value of money and lowering the interest, 1691; and further considerations on the same subject, 1695, when he was very much consulted on the measures then in operation for restoring the coin. The *Reasonableness of† Christianity*, 1695, and a first and second vindication of the same, 1696, and also the three elaborate letters in defence of the prin-

\* Bayle, *Op. Mix.* tom. 4, p. 695. *Lettre à Minutol*, September 21, 1693. "M. Locke a publié en Anglais diverses Pensées sur l'Education des Enfans. C'est un profond philosophe, et qui a des vues fort finies sur tout ce qu'il entreprend."

And in page 696, "Quelqu'un travaille à mettre en Français les Pensées que Monsieur Locke, l'un des plus profonds metaphysiciens de ce siècle, a publiés en Anglais sur l'Education. C'est un homme de beaucoup d'esprit. Je l'ai vû ici (Rotterdam) pendant le regne du Roi Jaques; la Revolution le ramena en Angleterre, où il est fort content. Il a publié un systeme de l'entendement, et un traité de l'origine du Gouvernement, le dernier a été traduit en Français. Il prouve que la souveraineté appartient aux peuples, et qu'ils ne font que la déposer entre les mains de ceux qu'on appelle souverains; sauf a eux à retirer leur dépôt pour le mieux placer, lorsque le bien public le demande, vous savez que c'est l'evangile du jour à present parmi les Protestans, &c."

† Locke on the *Reasonableness of the Christian Religion* criticised in Vol. II. *Bibliothèque choisie of Le Cler.* and *Histoire des Ouvrages des Savans*, Feb. 1703. Bayle, *Op.* tom. 4, p. 834. *Letter to Coste*, Dec. 27, 1703. "Autant que je l'ai compris [the work on the *Reasonableness*, &c.] cet ouvrage tend à montrer, que pourvu que l'on croie que Jesus Christ est le Messie, et que l'on ait une intention sincère d'obéir à ses preceptes, et de découvrir les autres vérités contenues dans le Nouveau Testament, on a toute l'essence du Chretien: de sorte qu'en vivant selon l'Evangile, autant que la fragilité humaine le peut souffrir, et en suppleant par la foi et



ciples contained in the Essay against the attacks of the Bishop of Worcester.

The Conduct of the Understanding, one of the most useful and practical of his works, and the Commentaries and Notes on the Epistles of St. Paul, close the catalogue of those of his literary labours which have been given to the world.\*

par la repentance, ce qui manque aux bonnes œuvres, on est sauvé aussi sûrement, que si l'on étoit éclairé sur tous les mystères que l'Eglise Anglicane, par exemple, trouve dans les écrits des Apôtres.

“L'auteur nous apprend dans la seconde partie, qu'il a surtout eu dessein de convertir les Déistes : on a donc lieu de croire qu'il a prétendu faire voir, que l'esprit de la Religion Chrétienne n'est pas d'exiger de l'homme, comme une condition nécessaire à être sauvé, que l'on croie ce grand nombre de dogmes incompréhensibles et qui choquent la lumière naturelle, dont la confession des Protestans est chargée : le Péché originel, la Trinité, l'union hypostatique du Verbe, &c. Il n'a point travaillé à concilier avec la raison, ou à imposer à la raison le joug de ces dogmes, comme il a travaillé fortement à réfuter les objections fondées sur les faits de la conduite du Messie ; je veux dire, sur la manière de cacher ou de déguiser sa Mission, d'employer des réponses ambiguës quand il étoit interrogé par les Pharisiens, &c. : choses que certains Juifs ont violemment critiquées, et qui ont je ne sçai quoi de choquant. L'auteur a dit, ce me semble, la-dessus de très bonnes choses ; mais je ne crois point qu'il y ait des Sociniens qui ne souscrivissent à son livre, généralement parlant ; et il est certain que cette Secte a toujours suivie cette tablature, pour rendre le Christianisme plus conforme aux lumières de la raison.”

Ditto, page 840. Letter to Coste, April 8, 1704.

“Il auroit été, peut-être, à souhaiter que l'auteur se fût fait cette objection. Qu'encore qu'au commencement du Christianisme on fût sauvé sans une croyance distincte de la consubstantialité du Verbe, il ne s'ensuit pas qu'on le puisse être aujourd'hui. Car, les premiers Chrétiens faisant profession de recevoir le Messie pour le fils de Dieu, ne nioient pas qu'il le fût essentiellement ; ils faisoient abstraction entre cette manière d'être fils de Dieu, et les autres manières : mais aujourd'hui cette abstraction est impossible. Il faut, ou admettre formellement, ou rejeter formellement la co-essentialité du Verbe. Cela fait une différence capitale ; car vous savez que ‘*abstrahentium non est mendacium*.’ Tel étoit l'état des simples aux premiers siècles ; ils n'affirmoient ni ne nioient ce dogme là ; leur foi étoit la-dessus indéterminée. Mais depuis des disputes et les décisions, il faut opter ou la négative ou l'affirmative. Or il est bien plus criminel de rejeter une vérité proposée, que d'ignorer simplement si les termes, sous lesquels on croit, signifient précisément, déterminément, une telle chose, ou une autre.”

\* COPYRIGHT OF LOCKE'S WORKS.

Mr. Locke received for the first edition of the Essay on Human Understanding 30*l.* in 1689, and by agreement made several years afterwards, the bookseller was to deliver six books well bound for every subsequent edition, and also to pay ten shillings for each additional sheet. For the Reasonableness of Christianity, the price was ten shillings each sheet. For “the copy of

## CODICIL OF MR. LOCKE'S WILL RELATING TO HIS WORKS.

"Whereas, the Rev. Dr. Hudson, library keeper of the Bodleian Library, in the University of Oxford, writ to me some time since, desiring of me, for the said library, the books whereof I was the author, I did, in return to the honour done me therein, present to the said library all the books that were published in my name, which, though accepted with honourable mention of me, yet were not understood fully to answer the request made me; it being supposed that there were other treatises, whereof I was the author, which had been published without my name to them: in compliance, therefore, with what was desired in the utmost extent of it, and in acknowledgment of the honour done me, in thinking my writing worthy to be placed among the works of the learned, in that august repository,—I do hereby give to the public library of the University of Oxford, these following books; that is to say; three letters concerning Toleration, the first whereof I writ in Latin, and was published at Tergon in Holland 1689, under the title "*Epistola de Tolerantiâ*," and afterwards translated into English, without my privity. 2nd. A second letter concerning Toleration, printed for Awnsham and John Churchill, 1690. 3rd. A third letter for Toleration to the author of the third letter concerning Toleration, printed for Awnsham and John Churchill, 1692. Two treatises of government, whereof Mr. Churchill has published several editions, but all very incorrect. The Reasonableness of Christianity, as delivered in the Scriptures. A Vindication of the Reasonable-

several other books," which I believe were, the Consideration of raising the value, or lowering the interest of Money, the Reasonableness of Christianity, and vindication of the same, the sum received was "44*l.* 15*s.*" For the Treatise on Education, 5*l.* for every impression, and twenty-five books bound in calf. Of this book Mr. Cline, the celebrated surgeon, said that it had contributed more to the general health of the higher classes of society, by one rule which the author lays down, than any other book he had ever read.

1698. My Reply to the Bishop of Worcester's second answer 14*l.* 10*s.*

Fourth edition of my Education - - - 5*l.*

1699. Third Letter to the Bishop of Worcester - - 14*l.*—*Locke's Account Books.*

ness of Christianity from Mr. Edwards' reflections. A Second Vindication of the Reasonableness of Christianity. These are all the books whereof I am the author, which have been published without my name to them. Item. I give to the said Bodleian Library the argument of the letter concerning Toleration, briefly considered and answered, printed at Oxford 1691, both which treatises it is my will should be bound up in one volume, with my three letters on the same subject, that therein any one who pleaseth, may have the convenience to examine what my opponent and I have said in the controversy.

"Item. Whereas, there is intended speedily another edition of my Essay concerning Human Understanding, wherein there will be in the thirty-first chapter of the second book some small alterations which I have made with my own hand, that the University which hath been pleased to honour it with a place in its library, may have that essay in the estate that my last thoughts left it in, it is my will that my executor shall, in my name, present to the said Bodleian Library, one copy of the next edition of my said essay well bound. Item. Whereas I am informed that there is a design of publishing two other volumes as a continuation of the collection of voyages published this year by A. and S. Churchill in four vols. folio, it is my will that my executor shall, in my name, present to the said Bodleian Library the two intended volumes also, when they come out, which I do hereby give to the University of Oxford."

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The character of Locke which Le Clerc has added to his *éloge*, derived, as he tells us, from a person who knew him well, is too excellent to be omitted.

"He was," says she, (and I can confirm her testimony in great measure by what I have myself seen here) "a profound philosopher, and a man fit for the most important affairs. He had much knowledge of belles lettres, and his manners were very polite and particularly engaging. He knew something of almost every thing which can be useful to mankind, and was thoroughly master of all



that he had studied, but he showed his superiority by not appearing to value himself in any way on account of his great attainments. Nobody assumed less the airs of a master, or was less dogmatical, and he was never offended when any one did not agree with his opinions. There are, nevertheless, a species of disputants, who after having been refuted several times, always return to the charge, and only repeat the same argument. These he could not endure, and he sometimes talked of them with impatience, but he was the first to acknowledge that he had been too hasty. In the most trifling circumstances of life, as well as in speculative opinions, he was always ready to be convinced by reason, let the information come from whomever it might. He was the most faithful follower, or indeed the slave of truth, which he never abandoned on any account, and which he loved for its own sake.

“ He accommodated himself to the level of the most moderate understandings, and in disputing with them, he did not diminish the force of their arguments against himself, although they were not well expressed by those who had used them. He felt pleasure in conversing with all sorts of people, and tried to profit by their information, which arose not only from the good education he had received, but from the opinion he entertained, that there was nobody from whom something useful could not be got. And indeed by this means he had learned so many things concerning the arts and trade, that he seemed to have made them his particular study, insomuch, that those whose profession they were, often profited by his information, and consulted him with advantage. Bad manners particularly annoyed and disgusted him, when he saw they proceeded not from ignorance of the world, but from pride, from haughtiness, from ill-nature, from brutal stupidity, and other similar vices ; otherwise, he was far from despising whomever it might be for having a disagreeable appearance. He considered civility not only as something agreeable and proper to gain people’s hearts, but as a duty of Christianity, which ought to be more insisted on than it commonly is. He recommended with reference to this, a tract

of Messrs. de Port Royal “sur les moyens de conserver la paix avec les hommes ;” and he much approved the sermons he had heard from Mr. Wichkot, a Doctor of Divinity, on this subject, and which have since been printed.

“ His conversation was very agreeable to all sorts of people, and even to ladies ; and nobody was better received than he was among people of the highest rank. He was by no means austere, and as the conversation of well-bred people is usually more easy, and less studied, and formal, if Mr. Locke had not naturally these talents, he had acquired them by intercourse with the world, and what made him so much the more agreeable was, that those who were not acquainted with him, did not expect to find such manners in a man so much devoted to study. Those who courted the acquaintance of Mr. Locke to collect what might be learnt from a man of his understanding, and who approached him with respect, were surprised to find in him not only the manners of a well-bred man, but also all the attention which they could expect. He often spoke against raillery, which is the most hazardous part of conversation if not managed with address, and though he excelled in it himself, he never said any thing which could shock or injure any body. He knew how to soften every thing he said, and to give it an agreeable turn. If he joked his friends, it was about a trifling fault, or about something which it was advantageous for them to know. As he was particularly civil, even when he began to joke, people were satisfied that he would end by saying something obliging. He never ridiculed a misfortune, or any natural defect.

“ He was very charitable to the poor, provided they were not the idle, or the profligate, who did not frequent any church, or who spent their Sundays in an ale-house. He felt above all compassion for those who, after having worked hard in their youth, sunk into poverty in their old age. He said, that it was not sufficient to keep them from starving, but that they ought to be enabled to live with some comfort. He sought opportunities of doing good to deserving objects ; and often in his walks he visited the poor of the neigh-

bourhood, and gave them the wherewithal to relieve their wants, or to buy the medicines which he prescribed for them if they were sick, and had no medical aid.

“ He did not like any thing to be wasted ; which was, in his opinion, losing the treasure of which God has made us the economists. He himself was very regular, and kept exact accounts of every thing.

“ If he had any defect, it was the being somewhat passionate ; but he had got the better of it by reason, and it was very seldom that it did him or any one else any harm. He often described the ridicule of it, and said that it availed nothing in the education of children, nor in keeping servants in order, and that it only lessened the authority which one had over them. He was kind to his servants, and showed them with gentleness how he wished to be served. He not only kept strictly a secret which had been confided to him, but he never mentioned any thing which could prove injurious, although he had not been enjoined secrecy ; nor could he ever wrong a friend by any sort of indiscretion or inadvertency. He was an exact observer of his word, and what he promised was sacred. He was scrupulous about recommending people whom he did not know, and he could not bring himself to praise those whom he did not think worthy. If he was told that his recommendations had not produced the effect which was expected, he said, that ‘ it arose from his never having deceived any body, by saying more than he knew that what he answered for might be found as he stated it, and that if he acted otherwise, his recommendations would have no weight.’

“ His greatest amusement was to talk with sensible people, and he courted their conversation. He possessed all the requisite qualities for keeping up an agreeable and friendly intercourse. He only played at cards to please others, although from having often found himself among people who did, he played well enough when he set about it ; but he never proposed it, and said it was only an amusement for those who have no conversation.



“ In his habits he was clean without affectation or singularity : he was naturally very active, and occupied himself as much as his health would admit of. Sometimes he took pleasure in working in a garden, which he understood perfectly. He liked exercise, but the complaint on his chest not allowing him to walk much, he used to ride after dinner ; when he could no longer bear the motion of a horse, he used to go out in a wheel chair ; and he always wished for a companion, even if it were only a child, for he felt pleasure in talking with well-bred children. The weak state of his health was an inconvenience to himself alone, and occasioned no unpleasant sensation to any one, beyond that of seeing him suffer. His diet was the same as other people’s, except that he usually drank nothing but water ; and he thought his abstinence in this respect had preserved his life so long, although his constitution was so weak. He attributed to the same cause the preservation of his sight, which was not much impaired at the end of his life ; for he could read by candle-light all sorts of books, unless the print was very small, and he never made use of spectacles. He had no other infirmity but his asthma, except that four years before his death he became very deaf, during a period of about six months. Finding himself thus deprived of the pleasures of conversation, he doubted whether blindness was not preferable to deafness, as he wrote to one of his friends ; otherwise, he bore his infirmities very patiently. This,” as Le Clerc says, “ is an accurate, and by no means flattered description of this great man.”

It has been observed in this character of Locke, that he knew something of almost every thing, and that he had learned so much of the Arts, that he seemed to have made them his peculiar study. The truth and accuracy of this remark is fully confirmed by the numerous receipts, memoranda, and observations, scattered throughout the Journal. All, or very nearly all these have been omitted, because their publication would now be useless, considering the improvements that have been made in arts and manufactures during the last century and a half. As they exist in the original

Journal, they afford a striking proof of the activity of his mind, of his industry in obtaining information, and of the accuracy of his descriptions. It is sufficient to say, that if he sees a cannon foundry, or a manufacture of fire-arms, he notes down in great detail the exact process of casting and boring, and of making the best French or German gun-barrels. He does the same of optical glasses, and of microscopes. He is as curious in observing the fermentation of wine, the method of making soap or verdigris, as he is to collect the most accurate information respecting the weights and measures or the true proportion of alloy in the different coins of every country in Europe. In one page he describes the management of vines, olives, and fruit-trees; in another, the preparation of Spanish perfumes; and in another, he writes on the metaphysical questions of space and extension.

The religious opinions of this great man may best be collected from his own writings: to an ardent piety, and a firm belief in the religion he professed, was joined a truly Christian charity for all those who differed in opinion from him. The religion of Locke was that revealed in the Scriptures, which, in his opinion, was the most reasonable religion in the world. Of the particular form of his faith, it is more difficult to speak, because he was always averse to vain and idle disputations; but for the dogmatical and mystical doctors of the Church he certainly had no predilection. Reason was his rule and guide in every thing; toleration was his text; and he abhorred those only who pervert that divine precept, which teaches—to promote peace on earth, and good will towards man. Those who rely upon his authority, and make use of his name, would do well to consider what manner of Christian he was; and, when they bid others believe because he believed, let them also teach as he taught, and practise those virtues which he practised.

He lived in communion with the Church of England; but it will appear most clearly, from extracts which will be given from an unpublished reply to a work of Dr. Stillingfleet's, that he entertained a strong opinion that the exclusive doctrines of the Church of England

were very objectionable; that he thought them much too narrow and confined, and that he wished for a much larger and easier comprehension of Protestants.

The following Paper, in Locke's hand-writing, was drawn up by him apparently for the rule and guidance of a religious society, whilst he resided in Holland, as it is dated 1688. It may be considered as his idea of a pure Christian community, or church, untainted by worldly considerations, or by professional arts.

#### PACIFIC CHRISTIANS.

1. We think nothing necessary to be known, or believed for salvation, but what God hath revealed.

2. We therefore embrace all those who, in sincerity, receive the Word of Truth revealed in the Scripture, and obey the light which enlightens every man that comes into the world.

3. We judge no man in meats, or drinks, or habits, or days, or any other outward observancies, but leave every one to his freedom in the use of those outward things which he thinks can most contribute to build up the inward man in righteousness, holiness, and the true love of God, and his neighbour, in Christ Jesus.

4. If any one find any doctrinal parts of Scripture difficult to be understood, we recommend him,—1st. The study of the Scriptures in humility and singleness of heart: 2d. Prayer to the Father of lights to enlighten him: 3d. Obedience to what is already revealed to him, remembering that the practice of what we do know is the surest way to more knowledge; our infallible guide having told us, if any man will do the will of Him that sent me, he shall know of the doctrines, John vii. 17. 4th. We leave him to the advice and assistance of those whom he thinks best able to instruct him. No men, or society of men, having any authority to impose their opinions or interpretations on any other, the meanest Christian. Since, in matters of religion, every man must know, and believe, and give an account for himself.



5. We hold it to be an indispensable duty for all Christians to maintain love and charity in the diversity of contrary opinions : by which charity we do not mean an empty sound, but an effectual forbearance and good-will, carrying men to a communion, friendship, and mutual assistance, one of another, in outward as well as spiritual things ; and by debarring all magistrates from making use of their authority, much less their sword, (which was put into their hands only against evil doers,) in matters of faith or worship.

6. Since the Christian religion we profess is not a notional science, to furnish speculation to the brain, or discourse to the tongue, but a rule of righteousness to influence our lives, Christ having given himself to redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a people zealous of good works,\* we profess the only business of our public assemblies to be to exhort thereunto, laying aside all controversy and speculative questions, instruct and encourage one another in the duties of a good life, which is acknowledged to be the great business of true religion, and to pray God for the assistance of his Spirit for the enlightening our understanding and subduing our corruptions, that so we may return unto him a reasonable and acceptable service, and show our faith by our works, proposing to ourselves and others the example of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, as the great pattern for our imitation.

7. One alone being our master, even Christ, we acknowledge no masters of our assembly ; but if any man, in the spirit of love, peace, and meekness, has a word of exhortation, we hear him.

8. Nothing being so oppressive, or having proved so fatal to unity, love, and charity, the first great characteristical duties of Christianity, as men's fondness of their own opinions, and their endeavours to set them up, and have them followed, instead of the Gospel of peace ; to prevent those seeds of dissension and division, and maintain unity in the difference of opinions which we know cannot be avoided—if any one appear contentious, abounding in his own sense rather than in love, and desirous to draw followers after himself, with destruction or opposition to others, we judge him not

\* Titus ii. 14.

to have learned Christ as he ought, and therefore not fit to be a teacher of others.

9. Decency and order in our assemblies being directed, as they ought, to edification, can need but very few and plain rules. Time and place of meeting being settled, if any thing else need regulation, the assembly itself, or four of the ancientest, soberest, and discreetest of the brethren, chosen for that occasion, shall regulate it.

10. From every brother that, after admonition, walketh disorderly, we withdraw ourselves.

11. We each of us think it our duty to propagate the doctrine and practice of universal good-will and obedience in all places, and on all occasions, as God shall give us opportunity.

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Thus lived this great and upright man, whose private history I have endeavoured to make more known from the memorials he has left, and from the best information that I have been able to collect. From these and from his works, it is evident that his understanding was alike fitted for speculation or practice; and that his mind was capable of comprehending the greatest subjects, and of adapting itself to the smallest details. He regulated his affairs, his time, and his employments with the truest economy, and the most exact attention to method and order. He was ever ready to assist his friends, and he had the satisfaction of retaining their attachment to the end of his life. He possessed those great requisites of happiness—equanimity, cheerfulness of temper, and the habit of constantly employing his mind in the pursuit of noble or useful objects. He was engaged not only in metaphysical and logical researches, but in most of the great questions which agitated men's minds in religion and politics during the period in which he lived; and greater questions certainly never were decided than those contended for between the time of the Civil Wars of Charles the First and the Revolution of 1688. Whatever may be the inaccuracies or errors in his abstract principles, and many exceptionable passages may no doubt be found in his works, yet it is allowed that when writing on

political questions he thoroughly weighed and maturely considered the practical results, and arrived at conclusions which are always just, generous, and prudent.

It was within the compass of his life that the great question of Toleration was first agitated, and by his exertions in great part decided. For it must not be supposed that the Reformation conferred a general freedom of conscience, or liberty of enquiry in religious concerns. No greater latitude of examination (except in that one sense as set forth by authority,) was either intended or permitted after the Reformation, than had been allowed under the Roman Church. One tyranny was replaced by another; and the new Church was no less intolerant than its predecessor. The civil magistrate first assumed the direction of the Reformation in England, then formed a league with the Church (falsely so called), and usurped that dominion over opinion and faith which the Popes had usurped before. The state-Church now made the same imperious demand for the prostration of the understanding, and the will of the people committed to their charge, always so much coveted by every priesthood\* which has the power to enforce it. We exchanged at the Reformation a foreign spiritual head, for an equally supreme dictatorship at home. All who presumed to differ from the established rule, were smitten by that double-edged sword which the civil power wielded against the Papists on one side, and the "fanatics" on the other. *Ultra citraque nefas*, it treated with equal severity those who yielded too much to authority, and those who yielded too little.

In one respect, the Reformation conferred an unmixed benefit; it dispersed the wealth, and broke the power of the priesthood: as for toleration, or any true notion of religious liberty, or any general freedom of conscience, we owe them not in the least degree to what is called the Church of England. On the contrary, we owe all these to the Independents in the time of the Commonwealth, and to Locke, their most illustrious and enlightened disciple.

\* See Locke, Common-place Book, article Sacerdos.



If we consider the political changes which it was his fortune to witness, and the important effects produced by his opinions and his writings in promoting the free exercise of reason, which he considered as the highest of all the high interests of mankind, and that on the security of which all others depended ; we shall be of opinion that his lot was cast at the time the most fortunate for himself, and for the improvement of mankind. Had he lived a century earlier, he might have been an enquirer indeed, or a reformer, or perhaps a martyr ; but the Reformation, which was brought about by passion and interest, more than by reason, was not the occasion for the exercise of his peculiar talents. Had he lived at a later period, the season and the opportunity suited to his genius might have passed by.

It was also within the compass of his life that the other great contest was decided in England ; whether the rights of Kings were to be paramount to all laws, to supersede all laws, and to dispense with all laws ; or whether the subjects of England were to possess and enjoy their ancient undoubted rights and liberties, as claimed and asserted at the Revolution, of which Locke was the most successful advocate. His object in the treatise on Civil Government, was, as he says, “ to establish the throne of our great restorer, our present King William ; to make good his title in the consent of the people, which being the only one of all lawful governments, he has more fully and clearly than any prince in Christendom ; and to justify to the world, the people of England, whose love of their just and natural rights, with the resolution to preserve them, saved the nation when it was on the very brink of slavery and ruin.”

Sir James Mackintosh, after praising the caution for which Locke's Treatise on Government is so remarkable, bearing, as he says, every where the marks of his own considerate mind, has observed that “ the circumstances of his life rendered it a long warfare against the enemies of freedom in philosophizing, freedom in worship, and freedom from every political restraint which necessity did not justify. In his noble zeal for liberty of thought, he dreaded

the tendency of doctrines which might gradually prepare mankind to ‘*swallow that for an innate principle which may suit his purpose who teacheth them.*’ He might well be excused, if in the ardour of his generous conflict, he sometimes carried beyond the bounds of calm and neutral reason, his repugnance to doctrines which, as they were then generally explained, he justly regarded as capable of being employed to shelter absurdity from detection, to stop the progress of free enquiry, and to subject the general reason to the authority of a few individuals.” The same accurate judge has observed, that “every error of Mr. Locke in speculation, may be traced to the influence of some virtue; at least every error, except some of the erroneous opinions generally received in his age, which with a sort of passive acquiescence, he suffered to retain their place in his mind.” After selecting this favourable apology for Locke’s errors, I may be accused of partiality if I omit noticing the opinion of another most acute writer, who speaking of the Essay has declared, “that few books can be named from which it is possible to extract more exceptionable passages.” It is, however, thought by many, that Mr. Stewart scarcely does justice to Locke’s principles, and that he too much distrusted their tendency. On the subject of free will, he says, “Locke is more indistinct, undecided, and inconsistent, than might have been expected from his powerful mind when directed to so important a question.” He seems to think that he had made various concessions to his adversaries, in which he yielded all that was contended for by Hobbes. He has accordingly been numbered, with some appearance of truth, with those who have substantially adopted the scheme of necessity, while they verbally oppose those doctrines. That some of the principles contained in the Essay may possibly lead to these extreme consequences, that they may be pushed thus far, that these grave objections have been brought forward, cannot be denied. I should, however, have profited little from the example and precepts of that upright man, whose life I have endeavoured to make more generally known, whose sincerity and simplicity, whose constant search for truth, are among the most

distinguished features of his character, if I attempted to palliate or disguise those imputed errors and mistakes, which he himself, if convinced, would have been the first to retract. "Whatever I write," these are his own words, "as soon as I shall discover it not to be truth, my hand shall be forwardest to throw it in the fire."

The delineation of his true character, whatever may be its defects, the most faithful portrait of him will, I believe, contribute more effectually to his real fame, than any praise, however laboured and brilliant it might be, and I am convinced it is the only panegyric which is worthy of him.

END OF THE LIFE.





# EXTRACTS FROM

## LOCKE'S COMMON-PLACE BOOK.

(On the first page is written, " Nat. 29 August, 1632, Adversaria, 1661.")

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### ERROR.

THE great division among Christians is about opinions. Every sect has its set of them, and that is called Orthodoxy; and he who professes his assent to them, though with an implicit faith, and without examining, he is orthodox and in the way to salvation. But if he examines, and thereupon questions any one of them, he is presently suspected of heresy, and if he oppose them or hold the contrary, he is presently condemned as in a damnable error, and in the sure way to perdition. Of this, one may say, that there is nor can be nothing more wrong. For he that examines, and upon a fair examination embraces an error for a truth, has done his duty, more than he who embraces the profession (for the truths themselves he does not embrace) of the truth without having examined whether it be true or no. And he that has done his duty, according to the best of his ability, is certainly more in the way to Heaven than he who has done nothing of it. For if it be our duty to search after truth, he certainly that has searched after it, though he has not found it, in some points has paid a more acceptable obedience to the will of his Maker, than he that has not searched at all, but professes to have found truth, when he has neither searched nor found it. For he that takes up the

opinions of any Church in the lump, without examining them, has truly neither searched after, nor found truth, but has only found those that he thinks have found truth, and so receives what they say with an implicit faith, and so pays them the homage that is due only to God, who cannot be deceived, nor deceive. In this way the several Churches (in which, as one may observe, opinions are preferred to life, and orthodoxy is that which they are concerned for, and not morals) put the terms of salvation on that which the Author of our salvation does not put them in. The believing of a collection of certain propositions, which are called and esteemed fundamental articles, because it has pleased the compilers to put them into their confession of faith, is made the condition of salvation. But this believing is not, in truth, believing, but a profession to believe; for it is enough to join with those who make the same profession; and ignorance or disbelief of some of those articles is well enough borne, and a man is orthodox enough and without any suspicion, till he begins to examine. As soon as it is perceived that he quits the implicit faith, expected though disowned by the Church, his orthodoxy is presently questioned, and he is marked out for a heretic. In this way of an implicit faith, I do not deny but a man who believes in God the Father Almighty, and that Jesus Christ is his only Son our Lord, may be saved, because many of the articles of every sect are such as a man may be saved without the explicit belief of. But how the several Churches who place salvation in no less than a knowledge and belief of their several confessions, can content themselves with such an implicit faith in any of their members, I must own I do not see. The truth is, we cannot be saved without performing something which is the explicit believing of what God in the Gospel has made absolutely necessary to salvation to be explicitly believed, and sincerely to obey what he has there commanded. To a man who believes in Jesus Christ, that he is sent from God to be the Saviour of the world, the first step to orthodoxy is a sincere obedience to his law. Objection—But 'tis an ignorant day-



labourer that cannot so much as read, and how can he study the Gospel, and become orthodox that way? Answer—A ploughman that cannot read, is not so ignorant but he has a conscience, and knows in those few cases which concern his own actions, what is right and what is wrong. Let him sincerely obey this light of nature, it is the transcript of the moral law in the Gospel; and this, even though there be errors in it, will lead him into all the truths in the Gospel that are necessary for him to know. For he that in earnest believes Jesus Christ to be sent from God, to be his Lord and ruler, and does sincerely and unfeignedly set upon a good life as far as he knows his duty; and where he is in doubt in any matter that concerns himself he cannot fail to enquire of those better skilled in Christ's law, to tell him what his Lord and master has commanded in the case, and desires to have his law read to him concerning that duty which he finds himself concerned in, for the regulation of his own actions; for as for other men's actions, what is right or wrong as to them, that he is not concerned to know; his business is to live well with himself, and do what is his particular duty—This is knowledge and orthodoxy enough for him, which will be sure to bring him to salvation,—an orthodoxy which nobody can miss, who in earnest resolves to lead a good life; and, therefore, I lay it down as a principle of Christianity, that the right and only way to saving orthodoxy, is the sincere and steady purpose of a good life. Ignorant of many things contained in the Holy Scriptures we are all. Errors also concerning doctrines delivered in Scripture, we have all of us not a few: these, therefore, cannot be damnable, if any shall be saved. And if they are dangerous, 'tis certain the ignorant and illiterate are safest, for they have the fewest errors that trouble not themselves with speculations above their capacities, or beside their concern. A good life in obedience to the law of Christ their Lord is their indispensable business, and if they inform themselves concerning that, as far as their particular duties lead them to enquire, and oblige them to know, they have orthodoxy enough, and will not be condemned for ignorance in those speculations which they had

neither parts, opportunity, nor leisure to know. Here we may see the difference between the orthodoxy required by Christianity, and the orthodoxy required by the several sects, or as they are called, Churches of Christians. The one is explicitly to believe what is indispensably required to be believed as absolutely necessary to salvation, and to know and believe in the other doctrines of faith delivered in the word of God, as a man has opportunity, helps and parts; and to inform himself in the rules and measures of his own duty as far as his actions are concerned, and to pay a sincere obedience to them. But the other, viz. the orthodoxy required by the several sects, is a profession of believing the whole bundle of their respective articles set down in each Church's system, without knowing the rules of every one's particular duty, or requiring a sincere or strict obedience to them. For they are speculative opinions, confessions of faith that are insisted on in the several communions; they must be owned and subscribed to, but the precepts and rules of morality and the observance of them, I do not remember there is much notice taken of, or any great stir made about a collection or observance of them, in any of the terms of church communion. But it is also to be observed, that this is much better fitted to get and retain church members than the other way, and is much more suited to that end as much as it is easier to make profession of believing a certain collection of opinions that one never perhaps so much as reads, and several whereof one could not perhaps understand if one did read and study; (for no more is required than a profession to believe them expressed in an acquiescence that suffers one not to question or contradict any of them); than it is to practise the duties of a good life in a sincere obedience to those precepts of the Gospel wherein his actions are concerned. Precepts not hard to be known by those who are willing and ready to obey them.

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J. L.

**RELIGIO.**—They that change their religion without full conviction, which few men take the way to, (and can never be without great piety,) are not to be trusted, because they have either no God, or have been false to him; for religion admits of no dissembling.

J. L.

**DISPUTATIO.**—One should not dispute with a man who, either through stupidity or shamelessness, denies plain and visible truths.

J. L.

**LINGUA.**—Tell not your business or design to one that you are not sure will help it forward. All that are not for you count against you, for so they generally prove, either through folly, envy, malice, or interest.

J. L.

Do not hear yourself say to another what you would not have another hear from him.

J. L.

**VOLUNTAS.**—Let your will lead whither necessity would drive, and you will always preserve your liberty.

#### SACERDOS.

There were two sorts of teachers amongst the ancients: those who professed to teach them the arts of propitiation and atonement, and these were properly their Priests, who for the most part made themselves the mediators betwixt the Gods and men, wherein they performed all or the principal part, at least nothing was done without them. The laity had but a small part in the performance unless it were in the charge of it, and that was wholly theirs. The chief, at least the essential, and sanctifying part of the ceremony, was always the priests', and the people could do nothing without them. The ancients had another sort of teachers, who were called philosophers. These led their schools and professed to instruct those who would apply to them in the knowledge of things and the rules of virtue. These meddled not with the public religion, worship, or ceremonies, but left them entirely to the priest, as the priests left the instruction of men in natural and moral knowledge wholly to the philosophers. These two parts or provinces of know-



ledge thus under the government of two distinct sorts of men, seem to be founded upon the supposition of two clearly distinct originals, viz. revelation and reason : for the priests never for any of their ceremonies or forms of worship pleaded reason ; but always urged their sacred observances from the pleasure of the Gods, antiquity, and tradition, which at last resolves all their established rites into nothing but revelation. “ Cum de religione agitur, T. Coruncanum, P. Scipionem, P. Scævolum, pontifices maximos, non Zenonem aut Cleanthem aut Chrysippum sequor . . . . A te philosopho rationem accipere debeo religionis, majoribus autem nostris etiam nullâ ratione redditâ credere.” Cic. de Nat. Deor. The philosophers, on the other side, pretended to nothing but reason in all that they said, and from thence owned to fetch all their doctrines ; though how little their lives answered their own rules whilst they studied ostentation and vanity, rather than solid virtue, Cicero tells us, Tusc. Quæst. l. 2. c. 4.

Jesus Christ, bringing by revelation from Heaven the true religion to mankind, reunited these two again, religion and morality, as the inseparable parts of the worship of God which ought never to have been separated, wherein for the obtaining the favour and forgiveness of the Deity, the chief part of what man could do consisted in a holy life, and little or nothing at all was left to outward ceremony, which was therefore almost wholly cashiered out of this true religion, and only two very plain and simple institutions introduced, all pompous rites being wholly abolished, and no more of outward performances commanded but just so much as decency and order required in the actions of public assemblies. This being the state of this true religion coming immediately from God himself, the ministers of it, who also call themselves priests, have assumed to themselves the parts both of the heathen priests and philosophers, and claim a right not only to perform all the outward acts of the Christian religion in public, and to regulate the ceremonies to be used there, but also to teach men their duties of morality towards one another and towards themselves, and to prescribe to them in the conduct of their lives.

Though the magistrate have a power of commanding or forbidding things indifferent which have a relation to religion, yet this can only be within that Church whereof he himself is a member, who being a lawgiver in matters indifferent in the commonwealth under his jurisdiction, as it is purely a civil society, for their peace, is fittest also to be lawgiver in the religious society, (which yet must be understood to be only a voluntary society and during every member's pleasure,) in matters indifferent, for decency and order for the peace of that too. But I do not see how hereby he hath any power to order and direct even matters indifferent in the circumstances of a worship, or within a Church whereof he is not professor or member. It is true he may forbid such things as may tend to the disturbance of the peace of the commonwealth to be done by any of his people, whether they esteem them civil or religious. This is his proper business; but to command or direct any circumstances of a worship as part of the religious worship which he himself does not profess nor approve, is altogether without his authority, and absurd to suppose. Can any one think it reasonable, yea, or practicable, that a Christian Prince should direct the form of Mahometan worship, the whole religion being thought by him false and profane? and *vice versa*; and yet it is not impossible that a Christian Prince should have Mahometan subjects who may deserve all civil freedom; and *de facto* the Turk hath Christian subjects. As absurd would it be that a magistrate, either Popish, Protestant, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Quaker, &c. should prescribe a form to any or all of the different Churches in their ways of worship, the reason whereof is because religious worship, being that homage, which every man pays his God, he cannot do it in any other way, nor use any other rites, ceremonies, nor forms, even of indifferent things than he himself is persuaded are acceptable and pleasing to the God he worships; which depending upon his opinion of his God, and what will best please him, it is impossible for one man to prescribe or direct any one circumstance of it to another: and this being a thing different and independent wholly from every man's concerns in the

civil society, which hath nothing to do with a man's affairs in the other world, the magistrate hath here no more right to intermeddle than any private man, and has less right to direct the form of it, than he has to prescribe to a subject of his in what manner he shall do his homage to another Prince to whom he is feudatory, for something which he holds immediately from him, which, whether it be standing, kneeling, or prostrate, bareheaded or barefooted, whether in this or that habit, &c. concerns not his allegiance to him at all, nor his well government of his people. For though the things in themselves are perfectly indifferent, and it may be trivial, yet as to the worshipper, when he considers them as required by his God, or forbidden, pleasing or displeasing to the invisible power he addresses, they are by no means so until you have altered his opinion, (which persuasion can only do,) you can by no means, nor without the greatest tyranny, prescribe him a way of worship; which was so unreasonable to do, that we find scarce any attempt towards it by the magistrates in the several societies of mankind till Christianity was well grown up in the world, and was become a national religion; and since that it hath been the cause of more disorders, tumults, and bloodshed, than all other causes put together.

But far be it from any one to think Christ the author of those disorders, or that such fatal mischiefs are the consequence of his doctrine, though they have grown up with it. Antichrist has sown those tares in the field of the Church; the rise whereof hath been only hence, that the clergy, by degrees, as Christianity spread, affecting dominion, laid claim to a priesthood, derived by succession from Christ, and so independent from the civil power, receiving (as they pretend) by the imposition of hands, and some other ceremonies agreed on (but variously) by the priesthods of the several factions, an indelible character, particular sanctity, and a power immediately from Heaven to do several things which are not lawful to be done by other men. The chief whereof are—1st. To teach opinions concerning God, a future state, and ways of worship. 2d. To do and perform themselves certain rites exclusive of others. 3d. To punish dissent-



ers from their doctrines and rules ; whereas it is evident from Scripture, that all priesthood terminated in the Great High Priest, Jesus Christ, who was the last Priest. There are no footsteps in Scriptures of any so set apart, with such powers as they pretend to, after the Apostles' time ; nor that had any indelible character. That it is to be made out, that there is nothing which a priest can do, which another man, without any such ordination, (if other circumstances of fitness, and an appointment to it, not disturbing peace and order, concur,) may not lawfully perform and do, and the Church and worship of God be preserved, as the peace of the state may be by justices of the peace, and other officers, who had no ordination, or laying on of hands, to fit them to be justices, and by taking away their commissions may cease to be so ; so ministers, as well as justices, are necessary, one for the administration of religious public worship, the other of civil justice ; but an indelible character, peculiar sanctity of the function, or a power immediately derived from Heaven, is not necessary, or as much as convenient, for either.

But the clergy (as they call themselves of the Christian religion, in imitation of the Jewish priesthood,) having, almost ever since the first ages of the Church, laid claim to this power, separate from civil government, as received from God himself, have, wherever the civil magistrate hath been Christian and of their opinion, and superior in power to the clergy, and they not able to cope with him, pretended this power only to be spiritual, and to extend no farther ; but yet still pressed, as a duty on the magistrate, to punish and persecute those whom they disliked and declared against. And so when they excommunicated, their under officer, the magistrate, was to execute ; and to reward princes for their doing their drudgery, they have (whenever princes have been serviceable to their ends,) been careful to preach up monarchy *jure divino* ; for commonwealths have hitherto been less favourable to their power. But notwithstanding the *jus divinum* of monarchy, when any Prince hath dared to dissent from their doctrines or forms, or been less apt to execute

the decrees of the hierarchy, they have been the first and forwardest in giving check to his authority, and disturbance to his government. And Princes, on the other side, being apt to hearken to such as seem to advance their authority, and bring in religion to the assistance of their absolute power, have been generally very ready to worry those sheep who have ever so little straggled out of those shepherds' folds, where they were kept in order to be shorn by them both, and to be howled on both upon subjects and\* neighbours at their pleasure: and hence have come most of those calamities which have so long disturbed and wasted Christendom. Whilst the magistrate, being persuaded it is his duty to punish those the clergy please to call heretics, schismatics, or fanatics, or else taught to apprehend danger from dissension in religion, thinks it his interest to suppress them—persecutes all who observe not the same forms in the religious worship which is set up in his country. The people, on the other side, finding the mischiefs that fall on them for worshipping God according to their own persuasions, enter into confederacies and combinations to secure themselves as well as they can; so that oppression and vexation on one side, self-defence and desire of religious liberty on the other, create dislikes, jealousies, apprehensions, and factions, which seldom fail to break out into downright persecution, or open war.

But notwithstanding the liberality of the clergy to princes, when they have not strength enough to deal with them, be very large; yet when they are once in a condition to strive with them for the mastery, then is it seen how far their spiritual power extends, and how *in ordine ad spiritualia*, absolute temporal power comes in. So that ordination, that begins in priesthood, if it be let alone, will certainly grow up to absolute empire; and though Christ declares himself to have no kingdom of this world, his successors have (whenever they can but grasp the power) a large commission to execute; and that a rigorously civil dominion. The Popedom hath been a large and lasting instance of this. And what Presbytery could do, even in

\* It is thus in the original, but, I confess, it is not intelligible.

its infancy when it had a little humbled the magistrates, let Scotland show.

*PATRIÆ AMOR* is from the idea of settlement there, and not leaving it again, the mind not being satisfied with any thing that suggests often to it the thoughts of leaving it, which naturally attends a man in a strange country. For though, in general, we think of dying, and so leaving the place where we have set up our rest in this world, yet, in particular, deferring and putting it off from time to time, we make our stay there eternal, because we never set precise bounds to our abode there, and never think of leaving it in good earnest.

*AMOR PATRIÆ.*—The remembrance of pleasures and conveniences we have had there ; the love of our friends, whose conversation and assistance may be pleasant and useful to us ; and the thoughts of recommending ourselves to our old acquaintance, by the improvements we shall bring home, either of our fortunes or abilities, or the increase of esteem we expect for having travelled and seen more than others of this world, and the strange things in it ; all these preserve in us, in long absence, a constant affection to our country, and a desire to return to it. But yet I think this is not all, nor the chief cause, that keeps in us a longing after our country. Whilst we are abroad we look on ourselves as strangers there, and are always thinking of departing ; we set not up our rest, but often see or think of the end of our being there ; and the mind is not easily satisfied with any thing it can reach to the end of. But when we are returned to our country, where we think of a lasting abode, wherein to set up our rest, an everlasting abode, for we seldom think of any thing beyond it, we do not propose to ourselves another country whither we think to remove and establish ourselves afterwards. This is that, I imagine, that sets mankind so constantly upon desires of returning to their country, because they think no more of leaving it again ; and, therefore, men married, and settled in any place, are much more cold in these desires. And, I believe, when any one



thinks often of this world, as of a place wherein he is not to make any long abode, where he can have no lasting fixed settlement, but that he sees the bounds of his stay here, and often reflects upon his departure, he will presently upon it put on the thoughts of a stranger, be much more indifferent to the particular place of his nativity, and no more fond of it than a traveller is of any foreign country, when he thinks he must leave them all indifferently to return and settle in his native soil.

The following remarkable passage, containing, as it does, the substance of Paley's argument, must have been written very early, being found in the tenth page of the first Common-Place Book, dated 1661.

“ Virtue, as in its obligation it is the will of God, discovered by natural reason, and thus has the force of a law ; so in the matter of it, it is nothing else but doing of good, either to oneself or others ; and the contrary hereunto, vice, is nothing else but doing of harm. Thus the bounds of temperance are prescribed by the health, estates, and the use of our time : justice, truth, and mercy, by the good or evil they are likely to produce ; since every body allows one may with justice deny another the possession of his own sword, when there is reason to believe he would make use of it to his own harm. But since men in society are in a far different estate than when considered single and alone, the instances and measures of virtue and vice are very different under these two considerations ; for though, as I said before, the measures of temperance, to a solitary man, be none but those above-mentioned ; yet if he be a member of a society, it may, according to the station he has in it, receive measures from reputation and example ; so that what would be no vicious excess in a retired obscurity, may be a very great one amongst people who think ill of such excess, because by lessening his esteem amongst them, it makes a man incapable of having the authority, and doing the good which otherwise he might. For esteem and reputation being a sort of moral strength, whereby a man is enabled to do, as it were, by an augmented force, that which others, of equal

natural parts and natural power, cannot do without it; he that by any intemperance weakens this his moral strength, does himself as much harm as if by intemperance he weakened the natural strength either of his mind or body, and so is equally vicious by doing harm to himself. This, if well considered, will give us better boundaries of virtue and vice, than curious questions stated with the nicest distinctions; that being always the greatest vice whose consequences draw after it the greatest harm; and therefore the injury and mischiefs done to society are much more culpable than those done to private men, though with greater personal aggravations. And so many things naturally become vices amongst men in society, which without that would be innocent actions: thus, for a man to cohabit and have children by one or more women, who are at their own disposal; and when they think fit to part again, I see not how it can be condemned as a vice, since nobody is harmed, supposing it done amongst persons considered as separate from the rest of mankind; but yet this hinders not but it is a vice of deep dye when the same thing is done in a society wherein modesty, the great virtue of the weaker sex, has often other rules and bounds set by custom and reputation, than what it has by direct instances of the law of nature in a solitude or an estate separate from the opinion of this or that society. For if a woman, by transgressing those bounds which the received opinion of her country or religion, and not nature or reason, have set to modesty, has drawn any blemish on her reputation, she may run the risk of being exposed to infamy, and other mischiefs, amongst which the least is not the danger of losing the comforts of a conjugal settlement, and therewith the chief end of her being, the propagation of mankind.

SCRIPTURA SACRA. A Vindication of the Divine Authority and Inspiration of the Writings of the Old and New Testament. By William Louth. 8. Ox. 92. p. 288.

“All the books have not an equal inspiration. 1 Q. What is equal inspiration? if the new be inspired the old is, because of the

testimony given to the old by the new. 2 Q. Inspired, because designed by God for the perpetual use and instruction of the Church, and to be a rule of the Christian faith in all ages. 3 Q. Whether by the same reason, they must not be very plain, and their sense infallibly intelligible to those to whom they are to be a rule?

An inspired writing is what is writ by the incitation, direction, and assistance of God, and designed by him for the perpetual use of the Church. Q. What is meant by incitation, direction, and assistance in the case? 4 Q. Whether that may not be inspired which is not designed for the perpetual use of the Church? God designed to provide a means for preserving the doctrine of Christ to the end of the world. 5 Q. Will it thence follow that all that St. Luke writ was inspired?

Writing, the best ordinary means of conveying doctrine to after ages; for God never works more miracles than needs must. 6 Q. Whether, therefore, all in the New Testament was appointed by God to be written?

Oral tradition not so good. Particular revelation not pretended to but by enthusiasts. 7 Q. Whether the name, enthusiasts, answers their arguments for particular revelation?

By writings, preserved in the ordinary methods of providence, men may as well *know* the *revealed* will of God, as they can know the histories of former ages, and the opinions of philosophers, &c. 8 Q. Will as well serve the turn, for that is with great uncertainty.

God made use of writing for the instruction of the Jewish Church. Moses, by God's direction, wrote his law in a book. 10 Q. Whether then the argument be not, the Old Testament was inspired, therefore the New is?

It is natural to suppose that the Apostles should take care to provide some certain means of instruction for the Christian church in conformity to the Jewish. 11 Q. When the author writ this, whether he thought not of it as an human contrivance? St. Matthew



writ particularly for the use of the Jews he had preached to. 12 Q. Whether then he had any thoughts that it should be an universal rule?

## ELECTIO.

I cannot see of what use the Doctrine of Election and Perseverance is, unless it be to lead men into presumption and a neglect of their duties, being once persuaded that they are in a state of grace, which is a state they are told they cannot fall from. For since nobody can know that he is elected but by having true faith, and nobody can know when he has such a faith, that he cannot fall from, common and saving faith, as they are distinguished, being so alike that he that has faith cannot distinguish whether it be such as he can fall from or no. Vide Calvin, Inst. l. 3. c. 2. 6. 12 Who is elected, or has faith, from which he cannot fall, can only be known by the event at the last day, and therefore is in vain talked of now till the marks of such a faith be certainly given.

## MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS.

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### JUDGING—ELECTION—RESOLUTION.

JUDGING is a bare action of the understanding, whereby a man, several objects being proposed to him, takes one of them to be best for him.

But this is not Election ?

Election then is, when a man judging any thing to be best for him, ceases to consider, examine, and enquire any farther concerning that matter ; for till a man comes to this, he has not chosen ; the matter still remains with him under deliberation, and not determined. Here, then, comes in the will, and makes Election voluntary, by stopping in the mind any farther enquiry and examination. This Election sometimes proceeds farther to

Firm Resolution, which is not barely a stop to farther enquiry by Election at that time, but the predetermination, as much as in him lies, of his will not to take the matter into any farther deliberation ; *i. e.* not to employ his thoughts any more about the eligibility ; *i. e.* the suitableness of that which he has chosen to himself as making a part of his happiness. For example, a man who would be married, has several wives proposed to him. He considers which would be fittest for him, and judges Mary best ; afterwards upon that continued judgment, makes choice of her ;

this choice ends his deliberation ; he stops all farther consideration whether she be best or no, and resolves to fix here, which is not any more to examine whether she be best or fittest for him of all proposed, and consequently pursues the means of obtaining her, sees, frequents, and falls desperately in love with her, and then we may see Resolution at the highest ; which is an act of the will, whereby he not only supersedes all farther examination, but will not admit of any information or suggestion, will not hear any thing that can be offered against the pursuit of this match.

Thus we may see how the will mixes itself with these actions, and what share it has in them ; viz. that all it does is but exciting or stopping the operative faculties ; in all which it is acted on more or less vigorously, as the uneasiness that presses is greater or less. At first, let us suppose his thoughts of marriage in general, to be excited only by some consideration of some moderate convenience offered to his mind ; this moves but moderate desires, and thence moderate uneasiness leaves his will almost indifferent ; he is slow in his choice amongst the matches offered, pursues coolly till desire grows upon him, and with it uneasiness proportionably, and that quickens his will ; he approaches nearer, he is in love—is set on fire—the flame scorches—this makes him uneasy with a witness ; then his will, acted by that pressing uneasiness, vigorously and steadily employs all the operative faculties of body and mind for the attainment of the beloved object without which he cannot be happy.

ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL POWER,  
INDORSED EXCOMMUNICATION. Dated 1673-4.

THERE is a twofold society, of which almost all men in the world are members, and that from the twofold concernment they have to attain a twofold happiness ; viz. that of this world and that of the other : and hence there arises these two following societies, viz. religious and civil.



CIVIL SOCIETY, OR THE  
STATE.

1. The end of civil society is civil peace and prosperity, or the preservation of the society and every member thereof in a free and peaceable enjoyment of all the good things of this life that belong to each of them; but beyond the concerns of this life, this society hath nothing to do at all.

2. The terms of communion with, or being a part of this society is promise of obedience to the laws of it.

3. The proper matter, *circa quam*, of the laws of this society are all things conducing to the end above-mentioned, *i. e.* civil happiness; and are in effect almost all moral and indifferent things which yet are not the proper matter of the laws of the society, till the doing or omitting of any of them come to have a tendency to the end above-mentioned.

4. The means to procure obe-

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY, OR THE  
CHURCH.

1. The end of religious society is the attaining happiness after this life in another world.

2. The terms of communion or conditions of being members of this society, is promise of obedience to the laws of it.

3. The proper matter of the laws of this society are all things tending to the attainment of future bliss, which are of three sorts: 1. *Credenda*, or matters of faith and opinion, which terminate in the understanding. 2. *Cultus religiosus*, which contains in it both the ways of expressing our honour and adoration of the Deity, and of address to him for the obtaining any good from him. 3. *Moralia*, or the right management of our actions in respect of ourselves and others.

4. The means to preserve obe-

dience to the laws of this society, and thereby preserve it, is force or punishment ; *i. e.* the abridgement of any one's share of the good things of the world within the reach of the society, and sometimes a total deprivation, as in capital punishments. And this, I think, is the whole end, latitude, and extent, of civil power and society.

dience to the laws of this society are the hopes and fears of happiness and misery in another world. But though the laws of this society be in order to happiness in another world, and so the penalties annexed to them are also of another world ; yet the society being in this world and to be continued here, there are some means necessary for the preservation of the society here, which is the expulsion of such members as obey not the laws of it, or disturb its order. And this, I think, is the whole end, latitude, and extent of ecclesiastical power and religious society.

This being, as I suppose, the distinct bounds of church and state, let us a little compare them together :—

THE PARALLEL.

1. The end of civil society is present enjoyment of what this world affords.

2. Another end of civil society is the preservation of the society or government itself for its own sake.

3. The terms of communion must be the same in all societies.

1. The end of church communion, future expectation of what is to be had in the other world.

2. The preservation of the society in religious communion is only in order to the conveying and propagating those laws and truths which concern our well-being in another world.

4. The laws of a commonwealth are mutable, being made within the society by an authority not distinct from it, nor exterior to it.

5. The proper means to procure obedience to the law of the civil society, and thereby attain the end, civil happiness, is force or punishment. 1st. It is effectual and adequate for the preservation of the society, and civil happiness is the immediate and natural consequence of the execution of the law. 2nd. It is just, for the breach of laws being mostly the prejudice and diminution of another man's right, and always tending to the dissolution of the society, in the continuance whereof every man's particular right is comprehended, it is just that he who has impaired another man's good, should suffer the diminution of his own. 3rd. It is within the power of the society which can exert its own strength against offenders, the sword being put into the magistrate's hands to that purpose. But civil so-

4. The laws of religious society, bating those which are only subservient to the order necessary to their execution, are immutable, not subject to any authority of the society, but only proposed by and within the society, but made by a lawgiver without the society, and paramount to it.

5. The proper enforcement of obedience to the laws of religion, are the rewards and punishments of the other world, but civil punishment is not so. 1st. Because it is ineffectual to that purpose; for punishment is never sufficient to keep men to the obedience of any law, where the evil it brings is not certainly greater than the good which is obtained or expected from the disobedience; and therefore no temporal worldly punishment can be sufficient to persuade a man to, or from that way which he believes leads to everlasting happiness or misery. 2nd. Because it is unjust in reference both to *Credenda* and *Cultus*, that I should be despoiled of my good things of this world, where I disturb not in the least the enjoyment of others; for my faith or religious worship hurts not another man in any



ciety has nothing to do without its own limits, which is civil happiness.

concernment of his; and in moral transgressions the third and real part of religion, the religious society cannot punish, because it then invades the civil society, and wrests the magistrate's sword out of his hand. In civil society one man's good is involved and complicated with another's, but in religious societies every man's concerns are separate, and one man's transgressions hurt not another any farther than he imitates him, and if he err, he errs at his own private cost; therefore I think no external punishment, *i. e.* deprivation or diminution of the goods of this life belongs to the Church. Only because for the propagation of the truth, (which every society believes to be its own religion,) it is equity it should remove those two evils which will hinder its propagation, 1. disturbance within, which is contradiction or disobedience of any of its members to its doctrines and discipline; 2. infamy without, which is the scandalous lives or disallowed profession of any of its members; and the proper way to do this, which is in its power, is to exclude and disown such vicious members.

6. Church-membership is perfectly voluntary, and may end whenever any one pleases without any prejudice to himself, but in civil society it is not so.

But because religious societies are of two sorts, wherein their circumstances very much differ, the exercise of their power is also much different. It is to be considered that all mankind, (very few or none excepted,) are combined into civil societies in various forms, as force, chance, agreement, or other accidents have happened to constrain them : there are very few also that have not some religion ; and hence it comes to pass, that very few men but are members both of some church and of some commonwealth ; and hence it comes to pass—

1st. That in some places the civil and religious societies are co-extended, *i. e.* both the magistrate and every subject of the same commonwealth is also member of the same church ; and thus it is in Muscovy, whereby they have all the same civil laws, and the same opinions and religious worship.

2nd. In some places the commonwealth, though all of one religion, is but a part of the church or religious society which acts and is acknowledged to be one entire society, and so it is in Spain and the principalities of Italy.

3rd. In some places the religion of the commonwealth, *i. e.* the public established religion, is not received by all the subjects of the commonwealth, and thus the Protestant religion in England, the Reformed in Brandenburgh, the Lutheran in Sweden.

4th. In some places the religion of part of the people is different from the governing part of the civil society, and thus the Presbyterian, Independent, Anabaptists, Quakers and Jewish in England, the Lutheran and Popish in Cleve, &c. ; and in these two last the religious society is part of the civil.

There are also three things to be considered in each religion as the matter of their communion :—

1. Opinions or speculations, *Credenda*.
2. *Cultus religiosus*.
3. *Mores*.

Which are all to be considered in the exercise of church power, which I conceive does properly extend no further than excommunication, which is to remove a scandalous or turbulent member.

In the first case there is no need of excommunication for immorality, because the civil law has provided, or may sufficiently, against that by penal laws, enough to suppress it; for the civil magistrate has moral actions under the dominion of his sword, and therefore it is not like he will turn away a subject out of his country for a fault which he can compel him to reform. But if any one differ from the Church in "*fide aut cultu*," I think first the civil magistrate may punish him for it where he is fully persuaded that it will disturb the civil peace, otherwise not; but the religious society may certainly excommunicate him, the peace whereof may by this means be preserved; but no other evil ought to follow him upon that excommunication as such, but only upon the consideration of the public peace.

In the second case I think the Church may excommunicate for faults in faith and worship, but not those faults in manners which the magistrate has annexed penalties to, for the preservation of civil society and happiness. The same also I think ought to be the rule in the third case.

In the fourth case, I think the Church has power to excommunicate for matters of faith, worship, or manners, though the magistrate punish the same immorality with his sword, because the Church cannot otherwise remove the scandal which is necessary for its preservation and the propagation of its doctrines; and this power of being judges who are fit to be of their society, the magistrate cannot deny to any religious society which is permitted within his dominions. This was the state of the Church till Constantine. But in none of the former cases is excommunication capable to be denounced by any Church upon any one but the members of that



Church, it being absurd to cut off that which is no part ; neither ought the civil magistrate to inflict any punishment upon the score of excommunication, but to punish the fact or forbear, just as he finds it convenient for the preservation of the civil peace and prosperity of the commonwealth, (within which his power is confined,) without any regard to excommunication at all.

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THUS I THINK

It is a man's proper business to seek happiness and avoid misery.

Happiness consists in what delights and contents the mind, misery in what disturbs, discomposes, or torments it.

I will therefore make it my business to seek satisfaction and delight, and avoid uneasiness, and disquiet ; to have as much of the one and as little of the other as may be.

But here I must have a care I mistake not ; for if I prefer a short pleasure to a lasting one, it is plain I cross my own happiness.

Let me then see wherein consists the most lasting pleasures of this life, and that as far as I can observe is in these things :

1st. Health,—without which no sensual pleasure can have any relish.

2nd. Reputation,—for that I find every body is pleased with, and the want of it is a constant torment.

3rd. Knowledge,—for the little knowledge I have, I find I would not sell at any rate, nor part with for any other pleasure.

4th. Doing good,—for I find the well-cooked meat I eat to-day does now no more delight me, nay, I am diseased after a full meal. The perfumes I smelt yesterday now no more affect me with any pleasure, but the good turn I did yesterday, a year, seven years since, continues still to please and delight me as often as I reflect on it.

5th. The expectation of eternal and incomprehensible happiness in another world is that also which carries a constant pleasure with it.

If then I will faithfully pursue that happiness I propose to myself, whatever pleasure offers itself to me, I must carefully look that it cross not any of those five great and constant pleasures above mentioned. For example, the fruit I see tempts me with the taste of it that I love, but if it endanger my health, I part with a constant and lasting for a very short and transient pleasure, and so foolishly make myself unhappy, and am not true to my own interest.

Hunting, plays, and other innocent diversions delight me : if I make use of them to refresh myself after study and business, they preserve my health, restore the vigour of my mind, and increase my pleasure ; but if I spend all, or the greatest part of my time in them, they hinder my improvement in knowledge and useful arts, they blast my credit, and give me up to the uneasy state of shame, ignorance, and contempt, in which I cannot but be very unhappy. Drinking, gaming, and vicious delights will do me this mischief, not only by wasting my time, but by a positive efficacy endanger my health, impair my parts, imprint ill habits, lessen my esteem, and leave a constant lasting torment on my conscience ; therefore all vicious and unlawful pleasures I will always avoid, because such a mastery of my passions will afford me a constant pleasure greater than any such enjoyments ; and also deliver me from the certain evil of several kinds, that by indulging myself in a present temptation I shall certainly afterwards suffer.

All innocent diversions and delights as far as they will contribute to my health, and consist with my improvement, condition, and my other more solid pleasures of knowledge and reputation, I will enjoy, but no farther, and this I will carefully watch and examine, that I may not be deceived by the flattery of a present pleasure to lose a greater.

## OF ETHICS IN GENERAL.

1. Happiness and misery are the two great springs of human actions, and through different ways we find men so busy in the world, they all aim at happiness, and desire to avoid misery, as it appears to them in different places and shapes.

2. I do not remember that I have heard of any nation of men who have not acknowledged that there has been right and wrong in men's actions, as well as truth and falsehood in their sayings ; some measures there have been every where owned, though very different ; some rules and boundaries to men's actions, by which they were judged to be good or bad ; nor is there, I think, any people amongst whom there is not distinction between virtue and vice ; some kind of morality is to be found every where received ; I will not say perfect and exact, but yet enough to let us know that the notion of it is more or less every where, and that men think that even where politics, societies, and magistrates are silent, men yet are under some laws to which they owe obedience.

3. But however morality be the great business and concernment of mankind, and so deserves our most attentive application and study ; yet in the very entrance this occurs very strange and worthy our consideration, that morality hath been generally in the world rated as a science distinct from theology, religion, and law ; and that it hath been the proper province of philosophers, a sort of men different both from divines, priests, and lawyers, whose profession it has been to explain and teach this knowledge to the world ; a plain argument to me of some discovery still amongst men, of the law of nature, and a secret apprehension of another rule of action which rational creatures had a concernment to conform to, besides what either the priests pretended was the immediate command of their God, (for all the heathen ceremonies of worship pretended to revelation, reason failing in the support of them,) or the lawyer told them was the command of the Government.



4. But yet these philosophers seldom deriving these rules up to their original, nor arguing them as the commands of the great God of heaven and earth, and such as according to which he would retribute to men after this life, the utmost enforcements they could add to them were reputation and disgrace by those names of virtue and vice, which they endeavoured by their authority to make names of weight to their scholars and the rest of the people. Were there no human law, nor punishment, nor obligation of civil or divine sanctions, there would yet still be such species of actions in the world as justice, temperance, and fortitude, drunkenness and theft, which would also be thought some of them good, some bad; there would be distinct notions of virtues and vices; for to each of these names there would belong a complex idea, or otherwise all these and the like words which express moral things in all languages would be empty, insignificant sounds, and all moral discourses would be perfect jargon. But all the knowledge of virtues and vices which a man attained to, this way, would amount to no more, than taking the definitions or the significations of the words of any language, either from the men skilled in that language, or the common usage of the country, to know how to apply them, and call particular actions in that country by their right names; and so in effect would be no more but the skill how to speak properly, or at most to know what actions in the country he lives in are thought laudable or disgraceful; *i. e.* are called virtues and vices, the general rule whereof, and the most constant that I can find is, that those actions are esteemed virtuous which are thought absolutely necessary to the preservation of society, and those that disturb or dissolve the bonds of community, are every where esteemed ill and vicious.

5. This would necessarily fall out, for were there no obligation or superior law at all, besides that of society, since it cannot be supposed that any men should associate together and unite in the same community, and at the same time allow that for commendable, *i. e.* count it a virtue, nay not discountenance and treat such actions

as blameable ; *i. e.* count them vices, which tend to the dissolution of that society in which they were united ; but all other actions that are not thought to have such an immediate influence on society, I find not (as far as I have been conversant in histories,) but that in some countries or societies they are virtues, in others vices, and in others indifferent, according as the authority of some esteemed wise men in some places, or as inclination or fashion of people in other places, have happened to establish them virtues or vices ; so that the ideas of virtues taken up this way teach us no more than to speak properly according to the fashion of the country we are in, without any very great improvement of our knowledge, more than what men meant by such words ; and this is the knowledge contained in the common ethics of the schools ; and this is not more but to know the right names of certain complex modes, and the skill of speaking properly.

6. The ethics of the schools, built upon the authority of Aristotle, but perplexed a great deal more with hard words and useless distinctions, telling us what he or they are pleased to call virtues and vices, teach us nothing of morality, but only to understand their names, or call actions as they or Aristotle does ; which is in effect but to speak their language properly. The end and use of morality being to direct our lives, and by showing us what actions are good, and what bad, prepare us to do the one, and avoid the other ; those that pretend to teach morals mistake their business, and become only language-masters where they do not do this,—when they teach us only to talk and dispute, and call actions by the names they prescribe, when they do not show the inferments that may draw us to virtue, and deter us from vice.

7. Moral actions are only those that depend upon the choice of an understanding and free agent. And an understanding free agent naturally follows that which causes pleasure to it, and flies that which causes pain ; *i. e.* naturally seeks happiness and shuns misery. That, then, which causes to any one pleasure, that is good to him ; and that which causes him pain, is bad to him : and that which

causes the greater pleasure is the greater good, and that which causes the greater pain, the greater evil. For happiness and misery consisting only in pleasure and pain, either of mind or body, or both, according to the interpretation I have given above of those words, nothing can be good or bad to any one but as it tends to their happiness or misery, as it serves to produce in them pleasure or pain : for good and bad, being relative terms, do not denote any thing in the nature of the thing, but only the relation it bears to another, in its aptness and tendency to produce in it pleasure or pain ; and thus we see and say, that which is good for one man is bad for another.

8. Now, though it be not so apprehended generally, yet it is from this tendency to produce to us pleasure or pain, that moral good or evil has its name, as well as natural. Yet perhaps it will not be found so erroneous as perhaps at first sight it will seem strange, if one should affirm, that there is nothing morally good which does not produce pleasure to a man, nor nothing morally evil that does not bring pain to him. The difference between moral and natural good and evil is only this ; that we call that naturally good and evil, which, by the natural efficiency of the thing, produces pleasure or pain in us ; and that is morally good or evil which, by the intervention of the will of an intelligent free agent, draws pleasure or pain after it, not by any natural consequence, but by the intervention of that power. Thus, drinking to excess, when it produces the head-ache or sickness is a natural evil ; but as it is a transgression of law, by which a punishment is annexed to it, it is a moral evil. For rewards and punishments are the good and evil whereby superiors enforce the observance of their laws ; it being impossible to set any other motive or restraint to the actions of a free understanding agent, but the consideration of good or evil ; that is, pleasure or pain that will follow from it.

9. Whoever treats of morality so as to give us only the definitions of justice and temperance, theft and incontinency, and tells us which are virtues, which are vices, does only settle certain complex



ideas of modes with their names to them, whereby we may learn to understand others well, when they talk by their rules, and speak intelligibly and properly to others who have been informed in their doctrine. But whilst they discourse ever so acutely of temperance or justice, but show no law of a superior that prescribes temperance, to the observation or breach of which law there are rewards and punishments annexed, the force of morality is lost, and evaporates only into words, disputes, and niceties. And, however Aristotle or Anacharsis, Confucius, or any one amongst us shall name this or that action, a virtue or a vice, their authorities are all of them alike, and they exercise but what power every one has, which is to show what complex ideas their words shall stand for : for without showing a law that commands or forbids them, moral goodness will be but an empty sound, and those actions which the schools here call virtues or vices, may by the same authority be called by contrary names in another country ; and if these be nothing more than their decisions and determinations in the case, they will be still nevertheless indifferent as to any man's practice, which will by such kind of determinations be under no obligation to observe them.

10. But there is another sort of morality or rules of our actions, which though they may in many parts be coincident and agreeable with the former, yet have a different foundation, and we come to the knowledge of them a different way ; these notions or standards of our actions not being ideas of our own making, to which we give names, but depend upon something without us, and so not made by us, but for us, and these are the rules set to our actions by the declared will or laws of another, who hath power to punish our aberrations ;—these are properly and truly, the rules of good and evil, because the conformity or disagreement of our actions with these, bring upon us good or evil ; these influence our lives as the other do our words, and there is as much difference between these two, as between living well and attaining happiness on the one hand, compared with speaking properly and understanding of words on the other. The notion of one, men have by making to themselves a

collection of simple ideas, called by those names which they take to be names of virtues and vices; the notion of the other, we come by from the rules set us by a superior power: but because we cannot come to the knowledge of those rules without 1st. making known a lawgiver to all mankind, with power and will to reward and punish; and 2d. without showing how he hath declared his will and law, I must only at present suppose this rule, till a fit place to speak of these, viz. God and the law of nature; and only at present mention what is immediately to the purpose in hand, 1st. That this rule of our actions set us by our law-maker is conversant about, and ultimately terminates in, those simple ideas before mentioned; viz. Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 2d. That the law being known, or supposed known by us, the relation of our actions to it, *i. e.* the agreement or disagreement of any thing we do to that rule, is as easy and clearly known as any other relation. 3d. That we have moral ideas as well as others, that we come by them the same way, and that they are nothing but collections of simple ideas. Only we are carefully to retain that distinction of moral actions, that they have a double consideration; 1st. As they have their proper denominations, as *liberality, modesty, frugality, &c. &c.* and thus they are but modes, *i. e.* actions made up of such a precise collection of simple ideas; but it is not thereby determined that they are either good or bad, virtues or vices. 2d. As they refer to a law with which they agree or disagree, so are they good or bad, virtues or vices. *Ευτραπεια* was a name amongst the Greeks, of such a peculiar sort of actions; *i. e.* of such a collection of simple ideas concurring to make them up; but whether this collection of simple ideas called *Ευτραπεια*, be a virtue or vice, is known only by comparing it to that rule which determines virtue or vice, and this is that consideration that properly belongs to actions, *i. e.* their agreement with a rule. In one, any action is only a collection of simple ideas, and so is a positive complex idea: in the other it stands in relation to a law or rule, and according as it agrees or disagrees, is virtue or vice. So educa-

tion and piety, feasting and gluttony, are modes alike, being but certain complex ideas called by one name : but when they are considered as virtues and vices, and rules of life carrying an obligation with them, they relate to a law, and so come under the consideration of relation.

To establish morality, therefore, upon its proper basis, and such foundations as may carry an obligation with them, we must first prove a law, which always supposes a law-maker : one that has a superiority and right to ordain, and also a power to reward and punish according to the tenor of the law established by him. This sovereign law-maker who has set rules and bounds to the actions of men is God, their Maker, whose existence we have already proved. The next thing then to show is, that there are certain rules, certain dictates, which it is his will all men should conform their actions to, and that this will of his is sufficiently promulgated and made known to all mankind.

DEUS.—Descartes's Proof of a God, from the Idea of necessary Existence, examined. 1696.

Though I had heard Descartes's opinion concerning the being of a God often questioned by sober men, and no enemies to his name, yet I suspended my judgment of him till lately setting myself to examine his proof of a God, I found that by it senseless matter might be the first eternal being and cause of all things, as well as an immaterial intelligent spirit ; this, joined to his shutting out the consideration of final causes out of his philosophy, and his labouring to invalidate all other proofs of a God but his own, does unavoidably draw upon him some suspicion.

The fallacy of his pretended great proof of a Deity appears to me thus :—The question between the Theists and Atheists I take to be this, viz. not whether there has been nothing from eternity, but whether the eternal Being that made, and still keeps all things in that order, beauty, and method, in which we see them, be a knowing immaterial substance, or a senseless material substance ; for that something,



either senseless matter, or a knowing spirit, has been from eternity, I think nobody doubts.

The idea of the Theists' eternal Being is, that it is a knowing immaterial substance, that made and still keeps all the beings of the universe in that order in which they are preserved. The idea of the Atheists' eternal Being is senseless matter. The question between them then is, which of these really is that eternal Being that has always been. Now I say, whoever will use the idea of necessary existence to prove a God, *i. e.* an immaterial eternal knowing spirit, will have no more to say for it from the idea of necessary existence, than an Atheist has for his eternal, all-doing, senseless matter, *v. g.* The complex idea of God, says the Theist, is substance, immateriality, eternity, knowledge, and the power of making and producing all things. I allow it, says the Atheist; but how do you prove any real Being exists, answering the complex idea in which these simple ideas are combined. By another idea, says the Cartesian Theist, which I include in my complex idea of God, *viz.* the idea of necessary existence. If that will do, says the Atheist, I can equally prove the eternal existence of my first being, matter; for it is but adding the idea of unnecessary existence to the one which I have, wherein substance, extension, solidity, eternity, and the power of making and producing all things are combined, and my eternal matter is proved necessarily to exist upon as certain grounds as the immaterial God; for whatsoever is eternal must needs have necessary existence included in it. And who now has the odds in proving by adding in his mind the idea of necessary existence to his idea of the first being? The truth is in this way, that which should be proved, *viz.* existence, is supposed, and so the question is only begged on both sides.

I have the complex idea of substance, solidity, and extension joined together, which I call *matter*: does this prove matter to be? No. I, with Descartes, add to this idea of matter a bulk as large as space itself; does this prove such a bulk of matter to be? No. I add to it this complex idea, the idea of eternity; does this prove

matter to be eternal? No. I add to it the idea of necessary existence; does this prove matter necessarily to exist? No. Try it in spirit, and it will be just so there. The reason whereof is, that the putting together or separating; the putting in, or leaving out, any one or more ideas, out of any complex one in my head, has no influence at all upon the being of things, without me to make them exist so, as I put ideas together in my mind.

But it will be said that the idea of God includes necessary existence, and so God has a necessary existence.

I answer: The idea of God, as far as the name *God* stands for the first eternal cause, includes necessary existence.

And so far the Atheist and the Theist are agreed; or rather, there is no Atheist who denies an eternal first Being, which has necessary existence. That which puts the difference between the Theist and the Atheist is this: that the Theist says, that this eternal Being, which has necessary existence, is a knowing spirit; the Atheist, that it is blind unthinking matter: for the deciding of which question, the joining the idea of necessary existence to that of eternal first Being or Substance, does nothing. Whether that eternal first Being, necessarily existing, be material or immaterial, thinking or not thinking, must be proved some other way; and when thus a God is proved, necessary existence will be included in the idea of God, and not till then. For an eternal necessary existing Being, material, and without wisdom, is not the Theist's God. So that real existence is but supposed on either side; and the adding in our thoughts the idea of necessary existence to an idea of a senseless material substance, or to the idea of an immaterial knowing spirit, makes neither of them to exist, nor alters any thing in the reality of their existence, because our ideas alter nothing in the reality of things, v. g. The Atheist would put into his idea of matter, necessary existence; he may do that as he pleases, but he will not thereby at all prove the real existence of any thing answering that idea; he must first prove, and that by other ways than that idea, the existence of an eternal all-doing matter, and then his idea

will be proved evidently a true idea ; till then it is but a precarious one, made at pleasure, and proves nothing of real existence, for the reason above mentioned, viz. our ideas make or alter nothing in the real existence of things, nor will it follow that any thing really exists in nature answering it, because we can make such a complex idea in our minds. By ideas in the mind we discern the agreement or disagreement of ideas that have a like ideal existence in our minds, but that reaches no farther, proves no real existence ; for the truth we so know is only of our ideas, and is applicable to things only as they are supposed to exist answering such ideas. But any idea, simple or complex, barely by being in our minds, is no evidence of the real existence of any thing out of our minds answering that idea. Real existence can be proved only by real existence ; and therefore, the real existence of a God can only be proved by the real existence of other things. The real existence of other things without us, can be evidenced to us only by our senses ; but our own existence is known to us by a certainty yet higher than our senses can give us of the existence of other things, and that is internal perception, a self-consciousness, or intuition ; from whence, therefore, may be drawn, by a train of ideas, the surest and most incontestable proof of the existence of a God.

J. L.

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The following paper appears to be intended as a supplement to the mode of acquiring truth ; it illustrates Mr. Locke's other works, and shows how deeply his mind was engaged in this particular.

Enthusiasm.

Method. The way to find truth as far as we are able to reach it in this our dark and short-sighted state, is to pursue the hypothesis that seems to us to carry with it the most light and consistency as far as we can without raising objections, or striking at those that come in our way, till we have carried our present principle as



far as it will go, and given what light and strength we can to all the parts of it. And when that is done, then to take into our consideration any objections that lie against it, but not so as to pursue them as objections against the system we had formerly erected; but to consider upon what foundation they are bottomed, and examine that in all its parts, and then putting the two whole systems together, see which is liable to most exceptions, and labours under the greatest difficulties; for such is the weakness of our understandings, that, unless where we have clear demonstration, we can scarce make out to ourselves any truths which will not be liable to some exception beyond our power wholly to clear it from; and therefore, if upon that ground we are presently bound to give up our former opinion, we shall be in a perpetual fluctuation, every day changing our minds, and passing from one side to another; we shall lose all stability of thought, and at last give up all probable truths as if there were no such thing, or which is not much better, think it indifferent which side we take. To this, yet as dangerous as it is, the ordinary way of managing controversies in the world directly tends. If an opponent can find one weak place in his adversary's doctrine, and reduce him to a stand, with difficulties rising from thence, he presently concludes he has got the day, and may justly triumph in the goodness of his own cause; whereas victory no more certainly always accompanies truth, than it does right. It shows, indeed, the weakness of the part attacked, or of the defence of it; but to show which side has the best pretence to truth and followers, the two whole systems must be set by one another, and considered entirely, and then see which is most consistent in all its parts; which least clogged with incoherences or absurdities, and which freest from begged principles and unintelligible notions. This is the fairest way to search after truth, and the surest not to mistake on which side she is. There is scarce any controversy which is not a full instance of this, and if a man will embrace no opinion but what he can clear from all difficulties, and remove all objections, I

fear he will have but very narrow thoughts, and find very little that he shall assent to. What, then, will you say, shall he embrace that for truth which has improbabilities in it that he cannot master? This has a clear answer. In contradicting opinions, one must be true, that he cannot doubt; which then shall he take? That which is accompanied with the greatest light and evidence, that which is freest from the grosser absurdities, though our narrow capacities cannot penetrate it on every side. Some men have made objections to the belief of a God, and think they ought to be heard and hearkened to, because, perhaps, nobody can unravel all the difficulties of creation and providence, which are but arguments of the weakness of our understandings, and not against the being of a God. Let us take a view then, of these men's hypotheses, and let us see what direct contradiction they must be involved in who deny a God. If there be no God from eternity, then there was no thinking thing from eternity; for the eternal thinking Thing, I call God. If from eternity there were no thinking Thing, then thinking things were made out of unthinking things by an unthinking power: as great an absurdity as that nothing should produce something. If matter be that eternal thinking thing, let us change that deceitful word matter, which seems to stand for one thing when it means the *congeries* of all bodies, and then the opinion will be, that all bodies, every distinct atom, is in its own nature a thinking thing. Let any one then, resolve with himself how such an infinite number of distinct independent thinking things came to be of one mind, and to consent and contrive together, to make such an admirable frame as the world, and the species of things and their successive continuation is. How some of them consented to lie buried for long or numberless ages in the bowels and centre of the earth, or other massy globes,—places certainly very uneasy for thinking beings,—whilst others are delighting themselves in the pleasures of freedom and the day. Let them produce harmony, beauty, constancy, from such a *congeries* of thinking independent atoms, and one, may I think, allow them to be cre-

ators of this world, and I know not why upon their own grounds they should not think so themselves, since there is no reason why the thinking atoms in them should not be as wise as any other in the universe ; for if they once allow me one atom of matter to have from eternity some degrees of knowledge and power above any other, they must tell us a reason why it is so, or else their supposition will be ridiculous when set up against the supposition of a Being that had from eternity more knowledge and more power than all matter taken together, and so was able to frame it into this orderly state of nature so visible and admirable in all the parts of it.

Letter of Mr. Le Clerc to Locke.

“ A' Amsterdam, le 12 d'Aout, 1694.

“ JE reçus, Monsieur, la semaine passée, par la voie de Monsieur Furlly les additions de votre ouvrage, qui m'ont infiniment plû. J'ai lû avidement l'addition du chapitre de la Liberté, qui m'a entièrement satisfait, étant convaincu depuis long-temps que la plûs part du temps, les hommes ne se déterminent pas par la vue distincte ou confuse de ce qui peut être leur plus grand bien, ou qu'ils croient être tel, mais par le plaisir qu'ils prennent à certaines choses, auxquelles ils sont habitués. On pourroit seulement demander si ce plaisir, ou cette *easiness*, comme vous vous exprimez plus commodement que je ne le saurois faire en François, est toujours de telle nature, que malgré cela, l'esprit ne puisse se déterminer du côté opposé. Pour moi, j'avouë que je ne vois pas bien comment lorsque je lis avec attention ce que vous dites ; mais je ne sais si le sentiment ne nous en convainc point. Au moins, il me semble qu'en mille choses je puis faire, ou non, et que je ne me détermine que parceque je le veux sans trouver plus de plaisir d'un côté que d'un autre. Mais c'est là une matière qui demande plus d'étendue, qu'un billet écrit à la hâte. Pour parler d'autres choses, et pour répondre à une article de vos lettres auquel j'ai oublié de répondre trois ou quatre fois, vous disposerez comme il vous plaira de l'exemplaire relié de ma Geneses soit que vous le veuillez garder pour vous, ou le donner à quelqu'un de vos amis. J'attends avec impatience le livre de Monsieur l'Evêque de Bath et Wells, pour voir ce qu'il dira contre moi, car les François de Londres, gens envieux et malins, s'il y en eut jamais ont pris plaisir à semer qu'il me refutoit en



termes forts. Cela me fâcheroit, non à cause des raisons auxquelles je ne ferai pas difficulté de me rendre si elles sont bonnes, mais à cause de la consequence, je ne sais si je me trompe, mais je m'imagine que ce sont des raisons de théologie *in quibus magis optant viri pii quàm docent*. On prescrit à Dieu ce qu'il doit avoir fait comme on le juge, à propos, sans rechercher ce qui est effectivement. Quoi qu'il en soit j'en userai avec lui, avec tout le respect qu'il pourra demander, et pour l'en convaincre, je lui ai déjà envoyé dix-huit feuilles de mon Exode, qu'il m'avoit faites demander par M. Cappel et par M. Limbourg, à qui il avoit écrit exprès pour cela. Il y en a à present environ le double d'imprimées, et j'espère que nous commencerons bientôt le Levitique. Je ne comprends pas qui avoit fait courir le bruit d'Oxford, dont M. Cappel m'avoit aussi averti. Il n'en est venu aucun vent à mes oreilles que par ce que vous et lui m'avez mandé. Mylord de Salisbury pourroit beaucoup faire pour moi, s'il vouloit, mais je ne sais s'il le veut. Il a un Chanoine François auprès de lui, qui feignant de m'estimer sème par tout, que je me suis perdu par ce livre, parce que je n'ai pas donné dans les étranges visions qu'il a débitée sur le Mistic, dans *ses réflexions sur les livres de l'Ecriture*. Je tenterai néanmoins de ce côté là, et je ne crois pas qu'il me nuira s'il ne veut pas m'aider. Enfin il en arrivera ce qu'il pourra, et pourvu que personne de nos gens sache rien de ma tentative si elle ne réussit pas, il n'y aura rien de perdu. Mais vos boutiquiers qui sont ici les souverains, et qui regardent leurs ministres comme leurs servantes, me regarderoient de haut en bas plus que jamais, s'ils savoient que je n'eusse pas réussi. Au contraire, si je pouvois me passer d'eux et me retirer d'ici, je me mettrois peu en peine de ce qu'ils diroient. Cependant il n'est pas bon que des personnes mal-intentionnées sachent rien de mes desseins. Il ne se passe rien ici de nouveau. Je vous prie de me mander la voie par laquelle vous m'envoyerez ou vous m'avez envoyé le Pentateuque de M. l'Evêque de Bath. Je suis de tout mon cœur, Monsieur, votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

J. LE CLERC."

Mr. Locke's answer to M. Le Clerc.

#### LIBERTY.

As to the determination of the will, we may take it under three considerations.

1st. The ordinary and successive uneasinesses which take their turns in the common course of our lives, and these are what, for the most part, determine the will, but with a power still of suspending.

2d. Violent uneasiness which the mind cannot resist nor away with: these constantly determine the will without any manner of suspension, where there is any view of a possibility of their removal.

3d. A great number of little and very indifferent actions which mix themselves with those of greater moment, and fill up, as it were, the little empty spaces of our time. In these, the will may be said to determine itself without the preponderancy of good or evil, or the motive of uneasiness on either side; as whether a man should put on his right or left shoe first, whether he should fold a margeant in the paper wherein he is going to write a letter to his friend, whether he should sit still or walk, or scratch his head whilst he is in a deep meditation; there are a thousand such actions as these which we do every day, which are certainly voluntary, and may be ascribed to the will determining itself. But there is so little thought precedes them, because of the little consequences that attend them, that they are but as it were appendices to the more weighty and more voluntary actions to which the mind is determined by some sensible uneasiness, and therefore in these the mind is determined to one or the other side, not by the preferable or greater good it sees in either, but by the desire and necessity of dispatch, that it may not be hindered in the pursuit of what is judged of more moment by a lingering suspense between equal and indifferent things, and a deliberation about trifles; in these, the uneasiness of delay is sufficient to determine and give the preference to one, it matters not which side. Mem. This writ to Mr. Le Clerc 9th Oct. 1694, in answer to his of 12th. Aug.

THE following articles properly belong to the Journal. Their date will show when each was written,

1677.—SPECIES.

The species of things are distinguished and made by chance, in order to naming and names imposed on those things which either the conveniences of life or common observation bring into discourse. The greatest part of the rest *sine nomine herbæ*, lie neglected, neither differenced by names, nor distinguished into species; viz. how many flies and worms are there which, though they are about us in great plenty, we have not yet named nor ranked into species, but come under the general names of flies or worms, which yet are as distinct as a horse and a sheep, though we never have had so great occasion to take notice of them. So that our ideas of species are almost voluntary, or at least different from the idea of Nature by which she forms and distinguishes them, which in animals she seems to me to keep to with more constancy and exactness than in other bodies and species of things: those being curious engines, do perhaps require a greater accurateness for their propagation and continuation of their race; for in vegetables we find that several sorts come from the seeds of one and the same individual as much different species as those that are allowed to be so by philosophers. This is very familiar in apples, and perhaps other sorts of fruits, whereof some have distinct names and others only the general, though they begin every day to have more and more given them as they come into use. So that species in respect of us are but things ranked into order, because of their agreement in some ideas which we have made essential in order to our naming them, though what it is essentially to belong to any species in reference to Nature be hard to determine; for if a woman should bring forth a creature perfectly of the shape of a man, that never showed any more appearance of reason than a horse, and had no articular language, and another woman should produce another with nothing of the shape, but with the language and reason of a man, I ask which of these you would call by the name man?—both or neither?



## UNDERSTANDING.—ARGUMENTS POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE, 1677.

In questions where there are arguments on both sides, one positive proof is to preponderate to a great many negatives, because a positive proof is always founded upon some real existence, which we know and apprehend; whereas the negative arguments terminate generally in nothing, in our not being able to conceive, and so may be nothing but conclusions from our ignorance or incapacity, and not from the truth of things which may, and we have experience do really exist, though they exceed our comprehension. This amongst the things we know and lie obvious to our senses is very evident, for though we are very well acquainted with matter, motion, and distance, yet there are many things in them which we can by no means comprehend; for, even in the things most obvious and familiar to us, our understanding is nonplussed, and presently discovers its weakness; whenever it enters upon the consideration of any thing that is unlimited, or would penetrate into the modes or manner of being or operation, it presently meets with unconquerable difficulties. Matter, and figure, and motion, and the degrees of both, we have clear notions of; but when we begin to think of the extension or divisibility of the one, or the beginning of either, our understanding sticks and boggles, and knows not which way to turn. We also have no other notion of operation but of matter by motion, at least I must confess I have not, and should be glad to have any one explain to me intelligibly any other; and yet we shall find it hard to make out any phenomenon by those causes. We know very well that we think, and at pleasure move ourselves, and yet, if we will think a negative argument sufficient to build on, we shall have reason to doubt whether we can do one or other; it being to me inconceivable how matter should think, and as incomprehensible how an immaterial thinking thing should be able to move immaterial, or be affected by it. We having therefore positive experience of our thinking and motion, the negative arguments against

them, and the impossibility of understanding them, never shake our assent to these truths, which perhaps will prove a considerable rule to determine us in very material questions.

AN ESSAY CONCERNING RECREATION, IN ANSWER TO D. G's.  
DESIRE, 1677.

As for my recreation, thus I think ; that recreation being a thing ordained, not for itself, but for a certain end, that end is to be the rule and measure of it.

Recreation then seeming to me to be the doing of some easy or at least delightful thing to restore the mind or body, tired with labour, to its former strength and vigour, and thereby fit it for new labour, it seems to me,—

1. That there can be no general rule set to different persons concerning the time, manner, duration, or sort of recreation that is to be used, but only that it be such as their experience tells them is suited to them, and proper to refresh the part tired.

2nd. That if it be applied to the mind, it ought certainly to be delightful, because it being to restore and enliven that which is done by relaxing and composing the agitation of the spirits, that which delights it without employing it much, is not only the fittest to do so, but also the contrary, *i. e.* what is ungrateful doth certainly most discompose and tire it.

3rd. That it is impossible to set a standing rule of recreation to one's self ; because not only the unsteady fleeting condition of our bodies and spirits require more at one time than another, which is plain in other more fixed refreshments, as food and sleep, and likewise requires very different according to the employment that hath preceded the present temper of our bodies and inclination of our minds ; but also because variety in most constitutions is so necessary to delight, and the mind is so naturally tender of its freedom, that the most pleasant diversions become nauseous and troublesome to us when we are forced to repeat them in a continued fixed round.

It is farther to be considered :—

1st. That in things not absolutely commanded nor forbidden by the law of God, such as is the material part of recreation, he in his mercy considering our ignorance and frail constitution, hath not tied us to an indivisible point, nor confined us to a way so narrow that allows no latitude at all in things in their own nature indifferent; there is the liberty of great choice, great variety, within the bounds of innocence.

2nd. That God delights not to have us miserable either in this or the other world, but having given us all things richly to enjoy, we cannot imagine that in our recreations we should be denied delight, which is the only necessary and useful part of it.

This supposed, I imagine :—

1st. That recreation supposes labour and weariness, and therefore that he that labours not, hath no title to it.

2nd. That it very seldom happens that our constitutions (though there be some tender one's that require a great deal,) require more time to be spent in recreation than in labour.

3rd. We must beware that custom and the fashion of the world, or some other by-interest, doth not make that pass with us for recreation which is indeed labour to us, though it be not our business; as playing at cards, though no otherwise allowable but as a recreation, is so far from fitting some men for their business and giving them refreshment, that it more discomposes them than their ordinary labour.

So that God not tying us up of time, place, kind, &c. in our recreations, if we secure our main duty, which is in sincerity to do our duty in our calling as far as the frailty of our bodies or minds will allow us, (beyond which we cannot think any thing should be required of us,) and that we design our diversions to put us in a condition to do our duty, we need not perplex ourselves with too scrupulous an inquiry into the precise bounds of them; for we cannot be supposed to be obliged to rules which we cannot know; for I doubt first whether there be any such exact proportion of



recreation to our present state of body and mind, that so much is exactly enough, and whatsoever is under is too little, whatsoever is over is too much ; but be it so or no, this I am very confident of, that no one can say in his own or another man's case, that thus much is the precise dose ; hitherto you must go and no farther ;— so that it is not only our privilege, but we are under a necessity of using a latitude, and where we can discover no determined, precise rule, it is unavoidable for us to go sometimes beyond, and sometimes to stop short of, that which is, I will not say the exact, but nearest proportion ; and in such cases we can only govern ourselves by the discoverable bounds on the one hand or the other, which is only when we find that our recreation by excess or defect, serves not to the proper end for which we are to use it, only with this caution, that we are to suspect ourselves most on that side to which we find ourselves most inclined. The cautious, devout, studious man, is to fear that he allows not himself enough ; the gay, careless, and idle, that he takes too much ; to which I can only add these following directions as to some particulars :—

1st. That the properest time for recreating the mind is when it feels itself weary and flagging ; it may be wearied with a thing when it is not weary of it.

2nd. That the properest recreation of studious, sedentary persons, whose labour is of the thought, is bodily exercise ; to those of bustling employment, sedentary recreations.

3rd. That in all bodily exercise, those in the open air are best for health.

4th. It may often be so ordered that one business may be made a recreation to another, visiting a friend to study.

These are my sudden extemporary thoughts upon this subject, which will deserve to be better considered when I am in better circumstances of freedom, of thought and leisure. Vale, March 77.

J. L.

## MEMORY—IMAGINATION—MADNESS.

MEMORY. When we revive in our minds the idea of any thing that we have before observed to exist, this we call memory ; viz. to recollect in our minds the idea of our father or brother. But when from the observations we have made of divers particulars, we make a general idea to represent any species in general, as man ; or else join several ideas together, which we never observed to exist together, we call it imagination. So that memory is always the picture of something, the idea whereof has existed before in our thoughts, as near the life as we can draw it : but imagination is a picture drawn in our minds without reference to a pattern. And, here it may be observed, that the ideas of memory, like painting after the life, come always short, *i. e.* want something of the original. For whether a man would remember the dreams he had in the night, or the sights of a foregoing day, some of the traces are always left out, some of the circumstances are forgotten ; and those kind of pictures, like those represented successively by several looking-glasses, are the more dim and fainter the farther they are off from the original object. For the mind, endeavouring to retain only the traces of the pattern, losing by degrees a great part of them, and not having the liberty to supply any new colours or touches of its own, the picture in the memory every day fades and grows dimmer, and often times is quite lost. But the imagination, not being tied to any pattern, but adding what colours, what ideas it pleases, to its own workmanship, making originals of its own, which are usually very bright and clear in the mind, and sometimes to that degree that they make impressions as strong and as sensible as those ideas which come immediately by the senses from external objects,—so that the mind takes one for the other, and its own imagination for realities. And in this, it seems madness consists, and not in the want of reason ; for allowing their imagination to be right, one may observe that madmen usually reason right from them : and I guess that those

who are about madmen, will find that they make very little use of their memory, which is to recollect particulars past with their circumstances: but having any particular idea suggested to their memory, fancy dresses it up after its own fashion, without regard to the original. Hence also, one may see how it comes to pass that those that think long and intently upon one thing, come at last to have their minds disturbed about it, and to be a little cracked as to that particular. For by repeating often with vehemence of imagination the ideas that do belong to, or may be brought in about the same thing, a great many whereof the fancy is wont to furnish, these at length come to take so deep an impression, that they all pass for clear truths and realities, though perhaps the greater part of them have at several times been supplied only by the fancy, and are nothing but the pure effects of the imagination.

This at least is the cause of several errors and mistakes amongst men, even when it does not wholly unhinge the brains, and put all government of the thoughts into the hands of the imagination; as it sometimes happens when the imagination, being much employed, and getting the mastery about any one thing, usurps the dominion over all the other faculties of the mind in all other. But how this comes about, or what it is that gives it on such an occasion that empire, how it comes thus to be let loose, I confess, I cannot guess. If that were once known, it would be no small advance towards the easier curing of this malady; and perhaps to that purpose it may not be amiss to observe, what diet, temper, or other circumstances they are that set the imagination on fire, and make it active and imperious. This, I think, that having often recourse to one's memory, and tying down the mind strictly to the recollecting things past precisely as they were, may be a means to check those extravagant or towering flights of the imagination. And it is good often to divert the mind from that which it has been earnestly employed about, or which is its ordinary business to other objects, and to make it attend to the informations of the senses and the things they offer to it.

J. L. 1678.



## MADNESS.

Madness seems to be nothing but a disorder in the imagination, and not in the discursive faculty ; for one shall find amongst the distract, those who fancy themselves kings, &c. who discourse and reason right enough upon the suppositions and wrong fancies they have taken. And any sober man may find it in himself in twenty occasions, viz.—in a town where he has not been long resident, let him come into a street that he is pretty well acquainted with at the contrary end to what he imagined, he will find all his reasonings about it so out of order and so inconsistent with the truth, that should he enter into debate upon the situation of the houses, the turnings on the right or left hand, &c. &c. with one who knew the place perfectly and had the right ideas which way he was going, he would seem little better than frantic. This, I believe, most people may have observed to have happened to themselves, especially when they have been carried up and down in coaches, and perhaps may have found it sometimes difficult to set their thoughts right, and reform the mistakes of their imagination. And I have known some, who upon the wrong impressions which were at first made upon their imaginations, could never tell which was north or south in Smithfield, though they were no very ill geographers ; and when by the sun and the time of the day they were convinced of the position of that place, yet they could not tell how to reconcile it to other parts of the town that were adjoining to it, but out of sight ; and were very apt to relapse again as soon as either the sun disappeared or they were out of sight of the place, into the mistakes and confusion of their old ideas. From whence one may see of what moment it is to take care that the first impressions we settle upon our minds be conformable to the truth and to the nature of things ; or else all our meditations and discourse thereupon will be nothing but perfect raving.

## ERROR.

The foundation of error and mistake in most men lies in having obscure or confused notions of things, or by reason of their confused ideas, doubtful and obscure words; our words always in their signification depending upon our ideas, being clear or obscure proportionably as our notions are so, and sometimes ( \* \* \* ) have little more but the sound of the word for the notion of the thing. For in the discursive faculty of the mind, I do not find that men are so apt to err : but it avails little that their syllogisms are right, if their terms be insignificant and obscure, or confused and indetermined, or that in their internal discourse, deductions be regular, if their notions be wrong. Therefore, in our discourse with others, the greatest care is to be had that we be not misled or imposed on by the measure of their words, where the fallacy oftener lies than in faulty consequences.

And in considering by ourselves to take care of our notions, where a man argues right upon wrong notions or terms, he does like a madman ; where he makes wrong consequences he does like a fool. Madness seeming to me to lie more in the imagination, and folly in the discourse.

## SPACE.—1677.

Space in itself seems to be nothing but a capacity or possibility for extended beings or bodies to be, or exist, which we are apt to conceive infinite ; for there being in nothing no resistance, we have a conception very natural and very true, that let bodies be already as far extended as you will, yet, if other new bodies should be created, they might exist where there are now no bodies : viz. a globe of a foot diameter might exist beyond the utmost superficies of all bodies now existing ; and because we have by our acquaintance with bodies, got the idea of the figure and distance of

the superficial part of a globe of a foot diameter, we are apt to imagine the space where the globe exists to be really something, to have a real existence before and after its existence there. Whereas, in truth, it is really nothing, and so has no opposition nor resistance to the being of such a body there ; though we, applying the idea of a natural globe, are apt to conceive it as something so far extended, and these are properly the imaginary spaces which are so much disputed of. But as for distance, I suppose that to be the relation of two bodies or beings near or remote to one another, measurable by the ideas we have of distance taken from solid bodies ; for were there no beings at all, we might truly say there were no distances. The fallacy we put upon ourselves which inclines us to think otherwise is this, that whenever we talk of distance, we first suppose some real beings existing separate from one another, and then, without taking notice of that supposition, and the relation that results from their placing one in reference to another, we are apt to consider that space as some positive real being existing without them ; whereas, as it seems to me, to be but a bare relation ; and when we suppose them to be, viz. a yard asunder, it is no more but to say extended in a direct line to the proportion of three feet or thirty-six inches distance, whereof by use we have got the idea ; this gives us the notion of distance, and the vacuum that is between them is understood by this, that bodies of a yard long that come between them, thrust or remove away nothing that was there before.

1. I take it for granted that I can conceive a space without a body ; for, suppose the universe as big as you will, I can, without the bounds of it, imagine it possible to thrust out or create any the most solid body of any figure, without removing from the place it possesses any thing that was there before. Neither does it imply any contradiction to suppose a space so empty within the bounds of the universe, that a body may be brought into it without removing from thence any other ; and if this be not granted, I cannot see how one can make out any motion, supposing your bodies of what figures or bulk you please, as I imagine it is easy to demonstrate.



If it be possible to suppose nothing, or, in our thoughts, to remove all manner of beings from any place, then this imaginary space is just nothing, and signifies no more but a bare possibility that body may exist where now there is none. If it be impossible to suppose pure nothing, or to extend our thoughts where there is, or we can suppose no being, this space void of body must be something belonging to the being of the Deity. But be it one or the other, the idea we have of it we take from the extension of bodies which fall under our senses; and this idea of extension being settled in our minds, we are able, by repeating that in our thoughts, without annexing body or impenetrability to it, to imagine spaces where there are no bodies—which imaginary spaces, if we suppose all other beings absent, are purely nothing, but merely a possibility that body might there exist. Or if it be a necessity to suppose a being there, it must be God, whose being we thus make, *i. e.* suppose extended, but not impenetrable: but be it one or the other, extension seems to be mentally separable from body, and distance nothing but the relation of space, resulting from the existence of two positive beings; or, which is all one, two parts of the same being.

## RELATION—SPACE. 1678.

Besides the considering things barely and separately in themselves, the mind considers them also with respect, *i. e.* at the same time looking upon some other, and this we call relation. So that if the mind so considers any thing that another is necessarily supposed, this is relation; there is that which necessarily makes us consider two things at once, or makes the mind look on two things at once, and hence it is that relative terms or words that signify this relation so denominate one thing, as that they always intimate or denote another; viz. father, countryman, bigger, distant; so that whatsoever necessarily occasions two things, looked on as distinct, this connection in our thoughts of whatsoever it be founded in, that is properly relation, which perhaps may serve to give a little light to that great

obscurity which has caused so much dispute about the nature of space, whether it be something or nothing, created or eternal. For when we speak of space (as ordinarily we do) as the abstract distance, it seems to me to be a pure relation, and we call it distance; but when we consider it as the distance or space between the extremities of a continued body, whose continued parts do, or are supposed to fill up all the interjacent space, we call it extension, and it is looked on to be a positive inherent property of the body, because it keeps constantly with it, always the same, and every particle has its share of it; whereas, whether you consider the body in whole mass, or in the least particles of the body, it appears to me to be nothing but the relation of the distance of the extremities. But when we spoke of space in general, abstract and separate from all consideration of any body at all or any other being, it seems not then to be any real thing, but the consideration of a bare possibility of body to exist: to this, I foresee, there will lie two great objections:—

1st. The Cartesians will except against me, as speaking of space without body, which they make to be the same thing; to whom let me say, that if *spacium* be *corpus*, and *corpus*, *spacium*, then it is as true too that *extensio* is *corpus*, and *corpus*, *extensio*, which is a pretty harsh kind of expression, and that which is so distant from truth, that I do not remember that I have anywhere met with it from them; and yet I would fain know any other difference between *extensio* and *spacium* than that which I have above mentioned. If they will say *omne extensum et omnis res positiva extensa* (\* \*) *corpus et vice versâ*, I fully consent. But then it is only to say that body is the only being capable of distance between its own parts, which is extension, (for I do not know why angels may not be capable of the relation of distance, in respect of one another,) which shows plainly the difference of the words extension, which is for distance, a part of the same body, or that which is considered but as one body, and that of space, which is the distance between any two beings, without the consideration of body interjacent. Besides this, there seems to me

this great and essential difference between space and body, that body is divisible into separable parts, but space is not. This, I think, is so plain that it needs no proof; for if one take a piece of matter, of an inch square, for example, and divide it into two, the parts will be separated if set at farther distance one from another; but yet nobody, I think, amongst those who are most for the reality of space, say the parts of space are or can be removed to a farther distance one from another. And he that, imagining the idea of a space of an inch square, can tell how to separate the parts of it, and remove them one from another, has, I confess, a much more powerful fancy than I.

It is no more strange, therefore, that extension, which is the relation of distance between parts of the same being, should be proper only to body, which alone has parts, than that the relation of filiation should be proper only to men.

To my supposition, that space, as it may be conceived antecedent to, and void of all bodies, or, if you will, all determinate beings, is nothing but the idea of the possibility of the existence of body; for, when one says there is space for another world as big as this, it seems to me to be no more than there is no repugnancy why another world as big as this might not exist; and in this sense space may be said to be infinite; and so in effect space, as antecedent to body, or some determinate being, is in effect nothing. To this I say will be objected, that space being, as it is, capable of greater and less, cannot properly be nothing. To this I say, that space, antecedent to all determinate beings, is not capable of greater or less. The mistake lies in this, that we, having been accustomed to the measures of a foot, an ell, a mile, &c. &c., can easily frame ideas of them, where we suppose no body to be even beyond the bounds of the world, but our having ideas in our head proves not the existence of any thing without us. But you will say, is not the space of a foot beyond the extremity of the universe less than the space of a yard? I answer, yes; that the idea of one, which I place there, is bigger than the idea of the other; but that there is any thing real there existing, I deny; or by saying



or imagining the space of a foot or yard beyond the extremity of the world would suppose or mean any thing more than that a body of a foot or a yard (of which I have the idea) may exist there, I deny. Indeed, should a body be placed a foot distant from the utmost extremity of the universe, one might say it was a foot distant from the world which seems to me to be a bare relation, resulting from its position there, without supposing that space to be any real being existing there before, and interposed between them, but only that a real body of such dimensions may be placed between them without removing them farther one from the other. For the relation makes itself appear in this, that whatsoever is so spoke of requires its correlative; and therefore speaking of the universe one cannot say it is distant, because without it we suppose no other determinate or finite being which may be the other term of this relation. It will be answered, perhaps, that one may suppose a point in that empty space, and then say it is a foot from that point. I answer one may as easily suppose a body as a point, if the point be *quid reale*; if not, it being nothing, one cannot say the extremity or superficies of the world is a foot from nothing; so that, be it a point, or body, or what other being one pleases, that is supposed there, it is evidence there is always required some real existence to be the other term of the relation.

And after all the suppositions that can be made, it can never truly be said that the utmost superficies of the world is a foot distant from any thing, if there be nothing really existing beyond it, but only that imaginary space.

That which makes us so apt to mistake in this point, I think is this, that having been all our life-time accustomed to speak ourselves, and hear all others speak of space, in phrases that import it to be a real thing, as to occupy or take up so much space, we come to be possessed with this prejudice that it is a real thing and not a bare relation. And that which helps to it is, that by constant conversing with real sensible things, which have this relation of distance one to

another, which we, by the reason just now mentioned, mistake for a real positive thing, we are apt to think that it as really exists beyond the utmost extent of all bodies, or finite beings, though there be no such beings there to sustain it, as it does here amongst bodies, which is not true. For though it be true, that the black lines drawn on a rule, have the relation one to another of an inch distance, they being real sensible things; and though it be also true that I, knowing the idea of an inch, can imagine that length, without imagining body, as well as I can imagine a figure without imagining body; yet it is no more true that there is any real distance in that which we call imaginary space, than that there is any real figure there.

## ADVERSARIA THEOLOGICA.

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IN a book with this title, commenced 1694, Mr. Locke had written several pages, of which the two following have been selected as specimens; they may be considered also as indications of his opinions. The other subjects in the book are:—

Anima humana materialis.

Spiritus sanctus Deus.

Christus merus homo.

Lex operum.

Anima humana non materialis.

Spiritus sanctus non Deus.

Christus non merus homo.

Lex fidei.

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### TRINITAS.

### NON TRINITAS.

1 Gen. 1. 26. Let  
us.

2. Man is become  
as one of us.

3. Gen iii. 22.  
Gen. xi. 6. 7. Isa.  
vi. 8.

Because it subverteth the unity of God, introducing three gods.

Because it is inconsistent with the rule of prayer directed in the SS. For if God be three persons, how can we pray to him through his Son for his spirit?

The Father alone is the most high God.  
Luke i. 32, 35.



## TRINITAS.

## NON TRINITAS.

There is but one first independent cause of all things, which is the most high God. Rom. ii. 36.

The Lord shall be one, and his name one. Zec. xiv. 9.

The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Mar. xii. 9.

'Tis life eternal to know thee [Father], the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. John xvii. 3. If the Holy Spirit were God, the knowledge of him would be necessary too, to eternal life. It is eternal life to know Christ as sent, not as eternally begotten, nor as co-essential to the Father. Biddle, 1-24. 1 Cor. viii. 5, 6.

There is one Spirit manifestly distinguished from God, *i. e.* one created spirit by way of excellency; *i. e.* the Holy Spirit. 2. There is one Lord distinguished from God, and therefore made, else there would be two unmade Lords; *i. e.* one made Lord by way of excellency, which is Jesus. Eph. iv. 4-6. Acts ii. 22, 23, 33, 36. Matt. xxiv. 36. Mark xiii. 32.

Rom. xv. 6.

John vi. 27.

James iii. 9.

John viii. 54. The Jews knew no God but the Father, and that was St. Paul's God.

2 Tim. i. 3. Acts iii. 13., v. 30, 31., xxii. 14. Neh. ix. 6. Thou art Lord alone. Thou, denoteth a single person.

1. Let us make man, no more proves the speaker to be more persons than one, than the

## TRINITAS.

## NON TRINITAS.

like form Mark iv. 30; John iii. 2; 2 Cor. x. 1, 2.

This, if any thing, proves only that there was some other person with God whom he employed, as in the creation of other things, so of man, viz. the Spirit, v. 2; Psal. civ. 30; Job xxvi. 13, xxxiii. 4.

Gen. iii. 22. This was spoken also to the Holy Spirit, as also that, Gen. xi. 6, 7; Isa. vi. 8.

CHRISTUS DEUS  
SUPREMUS.

1. If Christ were not God he could not satisfy for our sins.

2. He is called the mighty God. Isa. ix. 6.

3. Rom. ix. 5.

ὡν ἐπὶ πάντων Θεός  
εὐλογητός εἰς τοὺς  
αἰῶνας

CHRISTUS NON DEUS SUPREMUS.

Because we are to honour him, for that the Father hath committed all judgment to him. John v. 22, 23. But the highest is to be honoured with the highest honour for himself, and for no other reason but his own sake.

Because the love to the Father is made the ground and reason of love to the Son. 1 John v. 1. He is the Son of the Most High, Luke i. 32., and thereby distinguished from the Most High. The Father is greater than he. John xiv. 38.

Phil. ii. 5, 8; v. Biddle, 5-24., nobody can be equal with himself, equality is always between two. ib.

1 Cor. 8. 6. By whom are all things, *i. e.* pertaining to our salvation, ib. 7. God has made him Lord, Acts ii. 39; Phil. ii. 9, 10.

The glory and thanks which we give to Christ, and the faith and hope which we place in him, do not rest in him, but through him

CHRISTUS DEUS  
SUPREMUS.

## CHRISTUS NON DEUS SUPREMUS.

tend to God the Father, Phil. ii. 9, 10 ; 1 Pet. i. 21 ; John xii. 44 ; Rom. i. 8, xvi. 27 ; and therefore he is not equal to God.

He shall deliver up the kingdom, and be subject to the Father. 1 Cor. xv. 24, 25, 28.

And he shall be subject according to his human nature. Rev. 1. This distinction is not to be found in God's word. 2. It begs the question ; for it supposes two natures in Christ, which is the thing in question. 3. It makes two persons in Christ ; for he is to be subject who ruled and subdued, *i. e.* a person, for no other can be a king ; and therefore they must grant that the person of Christ, which they hold to be a Person of supreme Deity, delivereth up his kingdom, and becomes subject, or that his human nature is a person. The latter of these subverts the Trinitarian doctrine, the former itself, *ib.* 7. 4. It is said the Son himself shall be subject : but how can the Son himself become subject, if only a human nature, added to the Son, is subjected, and not the very person of the Son ? Biddle 8-24. God has exalted him and made him Lord, Phil. ii. 9, 11, and raised him from the dead. Rom. x. 9, iv. 24.

If the eternal Son of God, co-equal, and co-essential with the Father, were conceived and born of the Virgin Mary, how said the Angel to Joseph, that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit ? Matt. i. 20. Biddle, 11-24.

Luke i. 35.

Acts x. 38.



CHRISTUS DEUS  
SUPREMUS.

## CHRISTUS NON DEUS SUPREMUS.

Luke xxii. 48.

Matt. xvii. 46.

1. How can God satisfy God? If one person satisfies another, then he that satisfies is still unsatisfied, or forgives. *Ib.* 12.

John xx. 17.

Eph. i. 7.

Heb. i. 8, 9.

2. A mighty God; for, in the Heb., El Gibbor, not Hael Haggibbor, as the Lord of Hosts is called, Jer. xxxii. 18. Besides the words in the close of ver. 7. distinguish Christ from the Lord of Hosts, making his Godhead depend on the bounty of the Lord of Hosts. Biddle, 15-24.

3. A God over all, for Θεός there, is without an article, and so signifies not the supreme Deity.

THERE is an unpublished work of some length amongst Mr. Locke's papers, but as all interest on the subject to which it relates is now gone by, it would be useless to print any thing except a few extracts as a specimen. It was an answer to Dr. Stillingfleet, (Bishop of Worcester,) who had preached, 1680, a sermon before the Lord Mayor, styled the "Mischief of Separation," an elaborate and severe attack upon the Nonconformists. This discourse was answered by Mr. Baxter, Mr. Alsop, Dr. Owen, and other leading writers amongst the Presbyterians and Independents. Dr. Stillingfleet published, in reply, a larger work, 1683, which he entitled "The Unreasonableness of Separation," and this is evidently the work on which Mr. Locke animadvert.

Bishop G. was probably Dr. Gauden, Bishop of Exeter, the author of the *Εἰκὼν Βασιλική*; P. the Catholic, may be conjectured to have been Parsons the Jesuit.

## DEFENCE OF NONCONFORMITY.

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All the arguments used from the Church, or established Church, &c. amount to no more than this, that there are a certain set of men in the world upon whose credit I must without farther examination venture my salvation, so that all the directions and precepts to examine doctrines, try the spirit, take heed what you believe, hold the truth, &c. are all to no purpose, when all the measure and stamp of truth, whereby I am to receive it, will then be only the hand that delivers it, and not the appearance of rectitude it carries with it. This is to deal worse with men in their great eternal concernment of their souls, than in the short and trivial concernment

of their estates ; for though it be the allowed prerogative of Princes to stamp silver and gold, and thereby make them current money, yet every man has the liberty to examine even those very pieces that have the magistrate's stamp, and image, and if they have the suspicion and appearance of a false alloy, they may avoid being cozened, and not receive them ; the stamp makes it neither good nor current. But no authority that I know on earth, unless it be the infallible Church of Rome, boldly claims a right to coin opinions into truths, and make them current by their authority ; and yet in all places all men are unreasonably required to receive and profess doctrines for truths, because this governor, or that priest, says they are so ; yet how senseless soever, it helps not the case nor profits the opinions of any one sort of them ; for if the Pope demands an obedient faith to him and his emissaries, the Bishops of England tell us, that they and such as have episcopal ordination under them are the true Church, and are to be believed : the Presbyterians tell us those of Presbyterian ordination have no less authority, and that in all matters of doctrine and discipline they are to be believed. The Independents and Anabaptists think they have as much reason to be heard as the former ; and the Quakers think themselves the only true guides, whilst they bid us be guided by the light within us. All these we have within ourselves, every one of them calling on us to hearken to them, as the sole deliverers of unmixed truth in doctrine and discipline ; this they all do severally with the same confidence and zeal, and, for aught I know, with the same divine authority, for as for human authority, I am sure that weighs nothing in the case. If we will look further, and add to these the Lutheran, Greek, Armenian, Jacobite, and Abyssine Churches, and yet further out of the borders of Christianity, into the Jewish synagogues and Mahometan mosques, the Mufti and the Rabbis are men of authority, and think themselves as little deceivers or deceived as any of the rest. What will it avail then to the Church of England, among so many equal pretenders, to say they are the true Church, and must be believed, and have the magistrate on their side, and must



be obeyed? If they are to be believed the true Church because Bishop G. or Dr. S. says so, Mr. B. or Dr. O. will say as much for the Presbyterian or Independent; Cardinal H. and Mr. P. for the Popish and Quakers; and upon the same authority; for they are all men that say it, endowed with the like faculties to know themselves, and subject to the same frailties of mistaking or imposing. If they will prove themselves to be in the right, or to be the true Church, they take indeed the right course, but then they lay by their authority in proposing, as I myself lay it by in considering, their arguments: they appeal to my reason, and that I must make use of to examine and judge; but then we are but just where we were at first setting out, and where we shall be, whether the Church of England be or be not in the right, whether its constitution be or be not “*jure divino*,” *i. e.* every one judging for himself of what Church he thinks it best and safest to be. If it be said, as it is, “we have the law on our side, our constitution is established by the law of the land, you ought to be of our Church because the civil magistrate commands it,” I know not how short a cut this may be to peace, or rather uniformity, but I am sure it is a great way about, if not quite out of the way, to truth; for if the civil magistrates have the power to institute religions and force men to such ways of worship they shall think fit to enact, I desire any one, after a survey of the present potentates of the earth, to tell me how it is like to fare with truth and religion, if none be to appear and be owned in the world but what we receive out of the courts of Princes, or senate-houses of the states that govern it. I say not this with any reflection on the present age we live in, but let him, if he please, take any other age recorded in history, and then, (if the rulers of the earth were to prescribe the way to heaven, if their laws were to be the standards of truth and religion,) let him tell me what advantage it would ever have been to true religion to subject it to the power of the magistrate; and if Princes and potentates are not like for the future to be better informed, or more in love with true religion than they have been heretofore, if they are not like to be more sincerely con-

cerned for the salvation of their people's souls than every man himself is for his own, I do not see what reason we have to expect that these laws should be the likeliest way to support and propagate truth, and make subjects of the kingdom of heaven for the future.

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**BONDS.**—The bonds given to their pastors in Independent Churches, shows how in this contest churches are made like bird-cages with trap-doors, which give free admission to all birds, whether they have always been the wild inhabitants of the air, or are got loose from any other cages; but when they are once in, they are to be kept there, and are to have the liberty of going out no more; and the reason is, because if this be permitted our volary will be spoiled, but the happiness of the birds is not the business of these bird-keepers.

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In the dispute of ceremonies, our men speak of their Church as if it had such a divine power that it needed not consider whether any thing were suited to the ends for which they are made use of, and so the Church need not consider whether any thing be fit, and therefore appoint it; but as good as say that they make them fit by appointing, which whether God himself ever did I much doubt, but I am sure nothing can do but an infinite power.

It is not enough to justify the imposing of ceremonies, because in themselves they are not unlawful; but if by their number or inconvenience they are burdensome, they cannot be justified who impose them. This was the reason Peter uses against circumcision, Acts xv. 10. because it was a yoke that could not be well borne, or continue them as necessary when the end is to extend the metaphor of pastor and flock a little too far. Circumcision in itself was indifferent, and in the time of the Gospel might be used when there was a good end in it, as Paul circumcised Timothy; but if its injunction proved burthensome, as Act xv., or there was an opinion that it was unnecessary, it became unlawful.

It is not unlawful to separate from a Church which imposes

even indifferent things, if those who imposed them had not the power of imposing; for what is imposed by those who have not the authority to impose, can have no obligation on any to observe it, and therefore they may go where there are no such impositions, and this is more for the peace of the Church than to continue in it and oppose it. The convocation, with or without the civil magistrate, have not a power to impose on all Englishmen.

The charge of separating from our Church will not reach many of the Dissenters, who were never of it.

I suppose it will be allowed that a man may be saved in the Presbyterian, Independent, or Hugonot Church, of which there are now in England, and are or are not distinct Churches from the Church of England. If they are not, they cannot be accused of separation, being still parts of the Church of England: if they are, and a man be a member of the Presbyterian Church, will he not be guilty of sin if he separate from it, and go to the Independent, unless he can prove any doctrines and ceremonies sinful in the Presbyterian Church? And if so, the same sin will he be guilty of if he separate from that Church and come over to the Church of England; for if there be no sin in the doctrine and discipline of the Church he leaves, there is sin in his separating from it by the Doctor's rule, wherever he goes after separation; for being supposed both of them innocent in their doctrine and discipline, the only odds upon the Doctor's foundations remaining between them will be the law of the land, which I think I have shown can give neither authority nor advantage to one Church above another, but only in preferments and rewards, and that indeed they have, but are not content with it unless they have dominion too. But if the Doctor should say that they may without sin come over to ours, because our ceremonies and discipline are better, (for we suppose them to agree in doctrine,) they are only better, as they are better means of salvation: so that it will follow a man may separate from a Church lawfully in whose communion there is no sin, only for better edification; for suppose the state in England being again Popish or



Heathen, or on any other consideration should take off all the secular laws that oblige to conformity, would it be any more sin, upon the Doctor's ground, to separate from the Presbyterian Church to come to the Episcopal, than it would be to quit the Episcopal to go to the Presbyterian ?

If the Doctor, who is so well versed in Church history, would in the heat of dispute have recollected himself a little, he would certainly not have said that the great reason of retaining of the ceremonies in our Church by our Reformers, was the reverence to the ancient Church, since they themselves in the preface to a book he has every day in his hands, says so much otherwise. In the preface made and prefixed to the Liturgy in Edward the Sixth's time, and continued there till this very day, concerning the service of the Church and ceremonies, they declare that the great reason of the changes they made, and the chief aim they all along had in it, was the edification of the people, wherein, though with great reason they referred themselves to the ancient Fathers of the Church, yet it was only so far as the Fathers of the Church followed the great rule of edification. Why else did they leave out many of the most ancient ceremonies of the Church, though in themselves innocent, when they suspected them rather a burthen than profitable to the people ? And what they say concerning bringing in use again the reading Scriptures in a known tongue ; viz. that the people might continually profit more and more in the knowledge of God, and be more inflamed with the love of his true religion : and therefore left out a multitude of responds, verses, vain repetitions, commendations, synodals, anthems, and such like things, as did break the continued course of reading : I suppose A. will not say in themselves unlawful, but the reason they give was, because they made the service hard and intricate, and jostled out the more profitable reading of the Scriptures. And concerning ceremonies they say thus : " Of such ceremonies as be used in the Church and have had their beginning from the institution of man, some were at the first of godly intent and purpose devised, yet at length turned to vanity and superstition,"

(whereby I think it is plain, that things not only lawful in themselves but godly in their first institution, may come to be unlawful.) Some entered into the Church by indiscreet devotion, which not only for their unprofitableness, but also because they much blinded the people and obscured the glory of God, are worthy to be cut away and rejected ; others there be which, although they have been devised by man, yet it is thought good to reserve them still, “ as well for decent order in the Church, for which they were first devised, as because they are for edification, in which all things done in the Church as the Apostle teacheth, ought to be referred.” Whereby I think it is plain that no ceremony devised by man ought to find admittance in the worship of God, even upon pretence of decency and order, unless they some way or other conduce also to edification.

Now, if we will but take a view of the Reformation and its discreet and sober progress, we may observe how the Reformers in their management of it, kept steady to this great rule and aim, viz. of bringing the people to the knowledge of God and the practice of his true religion. See Burnet’s History of the Reformation, page 73, respecting the Ceremonies.

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It is plain that several of the ceremonies were retained and allowed only to the *desires* of the people, and allowed with limitation.

When the Common Prayer Book was reviewed, (see Burnet, page 155, 170) the additions were very sparing, and such as were very necessary for the edification of the people at that time. The other changes, p. 283, 392, History of Reformation.

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I have been thus particular to show what governed those wise and pious Reformers in their proceedings at that time, and we may observe all through, that the great difficulty that pressed them, was how they might lessen the ceremonies without lessening their converts ; the men they had to do with were, we see, fond and loth to part with them, and therefore they retained as many of them as they could, and added some again in Queen Elizabeth’s time, which had

been disused in King Edward the Sixth's time only to satisfy the people, and as a fit means to hold them in or bring them over to our communion: whereby they plainly kept close to the rule of the Scriptures which they had set to themselves, of doing all things for edification, and had been, besides the precept, the command of St. Paul, who became all things to all men, that he might gain some. But is the case so now with us? have we now any hopes of fresh harvests amongst the Papists, and to gain them over to us by the multitude of lawful ceremonies? I fear not; I hear of nobody that after so long an experience to the contrary, (and their being now fixed upon quite different fundamentals by the Council of Trent) that thinks it now reasonable to expect it. But on the other side, since Protestant dissenters are so great a part of the people upon the same principles with us, and agree with us perfectly in doctrine, and are excluded from our communion not by the desire of more, but by their scruples against many of those ceremonies we have in our Church, can any one say that the same reason holds now for their rigorous imposing, that did at the Reformation at first for their retaining, where the Reformers did not so much contend for, as against ceremonies. I appeal to the Doctor himself, whether he thinks that if those wise and worthy men were now again to have the revising of our liturgy and ceremonies, they would not as well leave out the cross in baptism now, (as well as they left it out in confirmation and consecration of the sacramental elements wherein they had once retained it,) and as well as they left out several others in use in the ancient Church, to comply with the weakness and perhaps mistake of our dissenting brethren, and thereby hold some and gain others to our communion as well as they retained several they had no great liking to, only to avoid offending those who by such compliance were more likely to be wrought upon? And of this mind I think every one must be, who will not say that more charity and christian forbearance, more care and consideration is to be used for the saving the souls of Papists than of dissenting Protestants.

I hope it will be thought no breach of modesty in me, if from a



heart truly charitable to all pious and sincere Christians, I offer my thoughts in the case. At the beginning of the Reformation, the people who had been bred up in the superstition and various outward forms of the Church of Rome, and had been taught to believe them substantial and necessary parts, nay almost the (\* \* \*) of religion, could not so easily quit their reverend opinion of them; and therefore, in a Church that endeavoured to bring over as many converts as they could, the retaining of as many of those ceremonies as were not unlawful, was then to enlarge the communion of the Church, and not narrow it. Since the people at that time were apt to take offence at the too few rather than too many ceremonies. So that ceremonies then had one of their proper ends, being a means to edification, when they were inducements to the people to join in communion with the Church, where better care was taken for their instruction. But the sad experience of these latter years makes it, I fear, but too plain, that the case is now altered: and as we at present stand with the Church of Rome, we have more reason to apprehend we shall be lessened by the apostacy of those of our Church to them, than increased by gaining new proselytes from them to us. The harvest for such converts has been long since at a stand if not an ebb; and being therefore likelier to lose than gain by any approaches we make towards them in outward agreement of rites and ceremonies, the retaining now of such, though lawful, cannot but in that respect be injurious to our Church, especially if we consider how many there are on the other side who are offended at and shut out by the retaining of them. And therefore, the taking away of as many as possible of our present ceremonies, may be as proper a way now to bring the Dissenters into the communion of our Church, as the retaining as many of them as could be, was of making converts at the Reformation. So that, what then was for the enlargement, now tends to the narrowing of our Church, and *vice versa*. Since Dissenters may be gained, and the Church enlarged by parting with a few things, which when the law which enjoins them is taken away are acknowledged to be indifferent, and therefore may still be used by those

that like them, I ask whether it be not, not only prudent but a duty incumbent on those whose business it is to have a care of the salvation of men's souls, to bring members into the union of the Church, and so to put an end to the guilt they are charged and lie under of error and schism, and division, when they can do it at so cheap a rate? whereas, whatever kindness we may have for the souls of those who remain in the errors of the Church of Rome, we can have small hopes of gaining much by concessions on that side.

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Speaking of the obedience required from a rational creature in Church government, it is never obedience for obedience sake, since the end God has prescribed of Church society, and all the institutions thereof, are for the preservation of order and decency; whatsoever is arbitrarily imposed in the Church, no way subservient to that end, is beyond the authority of the imposer, nor can any one be bound by the terms of communion, which our Saviour does not allow to be made. This fundamental mistake is the reason, I suppose, why in this dispute about ceremonies, the champions for conformity speak generally of the Church in such manner as if it had such a divine power that it need not consider whether any thing were suited to the end for which only its use can be allowed, and therefore this, our Mother, (whether it be the mark of an indulgent one I will not say,) need not consider whether any thing be fit, and therefore appoint it; but as good as tells us that she makes it fit by appointing, which whether God our merciful father ever does in such cases I much doubt; this I am sure, nothing but an infinite Being can do; and therefore to make things necessary by an arbitrary power, and continue them as necessary when the ends are ceased for which they were appointed, is to extend the metaphor of pastors and flocks a little too far, and treat men as if they were brutes in earnest.

All the Dissenters can be accused of is nothing but their refractoriness in choosing to lose the privileges of our Church communion, which they lawfully may do.

2nd. The Doctor answers: "that there can be no reasonable suspicion that our Church should impose any other ceremony than it has already done, because the Church has rather retrenched than increased ceremonies, as will appear to any one that compares the first and second Liturgies of Edward the Sixth, and since that time no new ceremony has been required as a condition of communion."

If the Doctor can prove that the Church has had these last twenty years the same ground for retaining the ceremonies as it had at the beginning of the Reformation, I yield there will be no such reasonable suspicion; but if that ground ceasing, the ceremonies have been still retained, and no other ground left for many of them, but the will of those that retain them being once imposed, the argument he brings that very little has been altered since Edward the Sixth's time, will serve only to make such a suspicion more reasonable, since those who keep up the imposition of ceremonies when the ground they were first imposed on had long before ceased, may for the same reason be suspected to have no other restraint from increasing them, but some accidental hinderance, especially if the Prelates of our Church practise and countenance more ceremonies than are enjoined, and these new and voluntary additions are understood to be the terms of preferment, though the law has not yet made them the terms of communion. But the Nonconformists, (I believe,) will not think the present Church of England gets much advantage upon them, or shows much of her condescension by the proof the Doctor offers, that the present Church is not like to increase her ceremonies because in Edward the Sixth's time she did review and retrench those of her own appointment, which does only tell us that the Church then did more towards a full reformation in two years than has been done in one hundred years since, viz. review her own constitutions, and retrench the ceremonies as much as the present temper of the people would permit; and though that Church and this have the same name of the Church of England, yet I imagine that the Dissenters think they are under far different



churchmen, and do very much doubt whether the conduct of these now, and those then, tend both the same way.

As to the law of the land, it can never be judged to be a sin not to obey the law of the land commanding to join in communion with the Church of England, till it be proved that the civil magistrate hath a power to command and determine what Church I shall be of, and therefore all the specious names, established constitution, settled Church, running through all the Doctor's sermons, and on which he seems to lay so much stress, signify nothing, till it be evident the civil magistrate has that power. It is a part of my liberty as a Christian and as a man to choose of what Church or religious society I will be of, as most conducing to the salvation of my soul, of which I alone am judge, and over which the magistrate has no power at all; for if he can command me of what Church to be, it is plain it follows that he can command me of what religion to be, which, though nobody dares say in direct words, yet they do in effect affirm, who say it is my duty to be of the Church of England, because the law of the land enjoins it.

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To understand the extent, distinction, and government of particular Churches, it will be convenient to consider how Christianity was first planted and propagated in the world; the apostles and evangelists went up and down, preaching the new doctrine, and the better to propagate it, went from city to city, or one great town to another, and there published their doctrines, where great collection of men gave them hopes of most converts. Having made a sufficient number of proselytes in any town, they chose out of them a certain number to take care of the concerns of that religion; these they called the elders, or bishops, who were to be the governors of that city, which so became a particular Church, formed much after the manner of a Jewish synagogue; such a constitution of a Church we find at Ephesus, Acts xx. and in several other cities. When a Church was thus planted in any city, these itinerant preachers left

it to grow and spread of itself, and from thence,—as from a root, to take in not only those who from thenceforth should be converted in the city, but in the neighbouring villages; and having done this, I say, they went to plant the Gospel in some other city. And the apostle St. Paul, having preached the Gospel, and made converts in all the cities of Greece, stayed not himself to appoint the elders, but left Titus there to do it, whilst he himself went on to publish the doctrines of life and salvation to those that sat yet in darkness.

The particular churches in different cities, directed by the prudence and enlarged by the preaching of these presbyters, under whose care they were left, spread themselves so that, in succession of time, in some places, they made great numbers of converts in the neighbourhood and villages round about, all which so converted made an accession to, and became members of the Church of the neighbouring city, which became an episcopacy, and the *παροικια*, from which our own name parish comes the diocese, which was the name that remained in use for a bishop's diocese a good while in the Church; how far the *παροικια* in the first times of Christianity reached, the signification of the word itself, which denotes neighbourhood, will easily tell us, and could certainly extend no farther than might permit the Christians that lived in it to frequent the Christian assemblies in the city, and enjoy the advantage of Church communion. Though the number of believers were in some of these cities more than could meet in one assembly for the hearing of the word, and performing public acts of worship, and so, consequently, had divers basilicas, or churches, as well as several presbyters to officiate in them, yet they continued one church and one congregation, because they continued under the government of the same presbyters, and the presbyters officiated promiscuously in all their meeting-places, and performed all the offices of pastors and teachers indifferently to all the members, as they, on their side, had the liberty to go to which assembly they pleased, a plain instance whereof we have in several Protestant Churches beyond sea, at Nisnes, at St. Gall.

This, probably, seems to be the constitution and bounds of particular Churches in the most primitive times of Christianity, different from our present parochial congregations and episcopal dioceses ; from the first, because they were independent Churches, each of them governed within themselves by their own presbytery ; from the latter they differ in this, that every great town, wherein there were Christians, was a distinct church, which took no great extent round about for its parochia, that what would allow the converts round about to have the convenience of communion and church fellowship in common with the assemblies of Christians in that town ; but afterwards, when these Churches were formed into episcopacies, under the government of single men, and so became subjects of power and matter of ambition, these parochias were extended beyond the convenience of church communion ; and human frailty, when it is got into power, naturally endeavouring to extend the bounds of its jurisdiction, episcopal parochias were enlarged, and that name being too narrow, was laid by, and the name of diocees, which signifies large tracts of ground, was taken to signify a bishoprick ; which way of uniting several remote assemblies of Christians and Churches under one governor, upon pretence of preventing schism and heresy, and preserving the peace and unity of the Church, gave rise to metropolitans and archbishops, and never stopped (nor indeed upon that foundation well could it,) till it at last ended in supremacy.

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ADDITIONS INTENDED BY THE AUTHOR TO HAVE BEEN ADDED TO  
THE ESSAY ON HUMAN UNDERSTANDING.

Book ii. c. 21.——God if he will.\* Sec. 54.

Perhaps it will be said if this be so, that men can suspend their desires, stop their actions, and take time to consider and deliberate upon what they are going to do. If men can weigh the good

\* These are the concluding words of the preceding Section.



and evil of an action they have in view : if they have a power to forbear till they have surveyed the consequences, and examined how it may comport with their happiness or misery, and what a train of one or the other it may draw after it ; how comes it to pass that we see men abandon themselves to the most brutish, vile, irrational, exorbitant actions, during the whole current of a wild or dissolute life, without any check, or the least appearance of any reflection, who if they did but in the least consider what will certainly overtake such a course here, and what may possibly attend it hereafter, would certainly sometimes make a stand, slacken their pace, abate of that height of wickedness their actions rise to. Amongst the several causes there may be of this, I shall set down some of the most common.

1st. It sometimes happens, that from their cradles some were never accustomed to reflect, but by a constant indulging of their passions have been all along given up to the conduct and swing of their inconsiderate desires, and so have, by a contrary habit, lost the use and exercise of reflection, as if it were foreign to their constitution, and can no more bear with it than as a violence done to their natures. How much fond or careless parents and negligent inspectors of the education of children have to answer on this account they were best look—for both the poor and rich I fear offend this way, the one in not opening their children's minds at all, the other in letting them loose only to sensual pleasures ; and hence the one never have their thoughts raised above the necessities of a needy drudging life, on which they are wholly intent, and the other have no thought besides their present pleasures, which wholly possess them. To the latter of these, all proposals of consideration are nonsense ; to the other, the names of virtue and worth are utterly unintelligible ; and to talk of a future state of happiness or misery, is looked on as a trick, and mere mockery, and they are ready to answer, You shall not make me such a fool as to believe that. This, in a country of so much preaching as ours, may seem strange, but I have very good witnesses of such

instances as these ; and I think nobody need go far to find people ignorant and uninstructed to that degree, for it is plain the instructions of the pulpit will not make people knowing if those be begun with and relied on.

2d. There seems to me to be in the world a great number of men who want not parts, but who, from another sort of ill education, and the prevalency of bad company and ill-imbibed principles of mistaken philosophy, cast away the thoughts and belief of another world as a fiction of politicians and divines conspiring together to keep the world in awe, and to impose on weak minds. If any of them, by their miscarriages, have brought this discredit on this fundamental truth, I think they have a great deal to answer for ; for this I imagine is certain, that when in this age of the world the belief of another life leaves a man of parts who has been bred up under the sound and opinion of heaven and hell, virtue seldom stays with him ; and then all his happiness being resolved into the satisfaction of his temporal desires, it is no wonder that his will should be determined, and his life guided by measures that, by men of other principles, seem to want consideration.

3d. To these we may add a third sort, who, for want of breeding, not arriving at a learned irreligion, or an argumentative disbelief of a future state, find a shorter cut to it from their own ill manners, than the others do from study and speculation ; for having plunged themselves in all sorts of wickedness and villany, their present lives give them but a very ill prospect of a future state, they resolve it their best way to have no more thoughts about it, but to live in a full enjoyment of all they can get, and relish here, and not to lessen that enjoyment by the consideration of a future life, whereof they expect no benefit.

N. B. This addition to the chapter may be spared.

## Book iii. c. 10. § 11.—Organs of Speech.

By this learned art of abusing words and shifting their significations, the rules left us by the ancients for the conducting our thoughts in the search, or at least the examination of truth, have been defeated. The logic of the schools contains all the rules of reasoning that are generally taught, and they are believed so sufficient, that it will probably be thought presumption in any to suppose there needs any other to be sought or looked after. I grant the method of syllogism is right as far as it reaches; its proper business is to show the force and coherence of any argumentation, and to that it would have served very well, and one might certainly have depended on the conclusions as necessarily following from the premises in a rightly ordered syllogism, if the applauded art of disputing had not been taken for knowledge, and the credit of victory in such contests introduced a fallacious use of words, whereby even those forms of arguing have proved rather a snare than an help to the understanding, and so the end lost for which they were invented. For the form of the syllogism, justifying the deduction, the conclusion, though never so false, stood good, and was to be admitted for such. This set men, who would make any figure in the schools, to busy their thoughts, not in a search into the nature of things, but in studying of terms and varying their signification of words with all the nicety and, as it was called, the subtlety they could strain their thoughts to, whereby they might entangle the respondent, who, if he let slip the observation and detection of the sophistry whenever any of the terms were used in various significations, he was certainly gone without the help of a like sort of artifice; and therefore, on the other side, was to be well-furnished with good store of words, to be used as distinctions, whether they signified any thing to the purpose, or any thing at all, it mattered not, they were to be thrown in the opponent's way, and he was to argue against them; so that whilst one could use his words equivocally, which is nothing but making the same sound to stand for different ideas, and the other but use



two sounds, as determining the various significations of a third, whether in truth they had any the least relation to its signification or no, there could be no end of the dispute, or decision of the question. Or if it happened that either of the disputants, failing in his proper artillery, was brought to a nonplus, this, indeed, placed the laurels on his adversary's head, victory was his, and with it the name of learning and renown of a scholar; he has his reward, and therein his end. But truth gets nothing by it; every one says he is the better disputant and carried the day, but nobody finds or judges of the truth by that. The question is a question still, and after it has been the matter of many a combat, and by being carried sometimes on one side and sometimes on the other, has afforded a triumph to many a combatant, is still as far from decision as ever. Truth and knowledge hath nothing to do in all this bustle; nobody thinks them concerned, it is all for victory and triumph: so that this way of contesting for truth, may be, and often is, nothing but the abuse of words for victory,—a trial of skill, without any appearance of a true consideration of the matter in question, or troubling their heads to find out where the truth lies. This is not the fault of mode and figure, the rules whereof are of great use in the regulating of argumentation, and trying the coherence and force of men's discourses. But the mischief has been brought in by placing too high a value and credit on the art of disputing, and giving that the reputation and reward of learning and knowledge, which is in truth one of the greatest hindrances of it.

Book iii. c. 10. § 13.—To do so.

We cannot but think that angels of all kinds much exceed us in knowledge, and possibly we are apt sometimes to envy them that advantage, or at least to repine that we do not partake with them in a greater share of it. Whoever thinks of the elevation of their knowledge above ours, cannot imagine it lies in a playing with words, but in the contemplation of things, and having true notions about them, a perception of their habitudes and relations one to another:

if this be so, methinks we should be ambitious to come in this part, which is a great deal in our power, as near them as we can ; we should cast off all the artifice and fallacy of words, which makes so great a part of the business and skill of the disputers of this world, and is contemptible even to rational men, and therefore must needs render us ridiculous to those higher order of spirits : whilst we, pretending to the knowledge of things, hinder as much as we can the discovery of truth, by perplexing one another all we can, by a perverse use of those signs which we make use of to convey it to one another, must it not be matter of contempt to them to see us make the studied and improved abuse of those signs have the name and credit of learning ? Should not we ourselves think the Chinese very ridiculous, if they should set those destined to knowledge out of the way to it, by praising and rewarding their proficiency in that which leads them quite from it ?

The study of such arts as these, is an unaccountable wasting of our time ; they serve only to continue or spread ignorance and error, and should be exploded by all lovers of truth and professors of science ; at least, ought not to be supported by the name and rewards of learning given to them. Those who are set apart to learning and knowledge, should not, one would think, have that made the chief, or any part of their study, which is an hindrance to their main end—knowledge. The forms of argumentation should be learned and made use of ; but to teach an apprentice to measure well, would you commend and reward him for cheating, by putting off false and sophisticated wares ? It is no wonder men never come to seek and to value truth sincerely when they have been entered in sophistry, and questions are proposed and argued, not at all for the resolving of doubts nor settling the mind upon good grounds on the right side, but to make a sport of truth which is set up only to be thrown at, and to be battled as falsehood, and he has most applause who can most effectually do it. What, then, shall not scholars dispute ? how else will they be able to defend the truth, unless they understand the ways and management of arguments ? To this I answer

1st. This way of managing arguments is nothing but the forms of syllogism, and may quickly be learned.

2d. If disputing be necessary to make any one master of those forms, it must be allowed to be absurd for beginners to dispute in any science, till they have well studied that science: if they be accustomed and required to dispute before they know, will it not teach them to take words for things,—to prefer terms to truth,—and take disputing for knowledge?

3rd. If disputing be necessary, every one should dispute in earnest for the opinion he is really of; that truth and falsehood might not appear indifferent to him, nor was it matter which he held; victory was all, truth nothing in the case.

4th. But that can never teach a man to defend truth which teaches him not the love of it, and when he gets commendation not by holding the truth, but for well maintaining falsehood. Besides, if it find approbation, never to come to an end of his syllogisms or distinctions till he has got the last word, what is this but to persuade a man it is a fine worthy thing never to have done talking,—to take no answer as long as he can find any terms of opposing,—nor ever to yield to any arguments; than which there can be nothing more odious to those who have a regard to truth, to say nothing of civil conversation and good breeding.

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In Locke's fourth Letter for Toleration there is an hiatus, where the Editor informs the reader that [the two following leaves of the copy are either lost or mislaid] that deficiency is now supplied from the original rough draft.

But since, perhaps, it would have laid the matter a little too open, if you had given the reason why you say I was concerned to make out that there are as clear and solid arguments for the belief of false religion as there are for belief of the true; or that men may both as firmly and rationally believe and embrace false religions as they can the true, I shall endeavour here to do it for you.



Knowledge, properly so called, or knowledge of the true religion, upon strict demonstration, as you are pleased to call it, not being to be had, his knowledge could not point out to him that religion which he is by force to promote. The magistrate being thus visibly destitute of knowledge to guide him in the right exercise of his duty, you will not allow his belief or persuasion but it must be firmness of persuasion, or full assurance; and this you think sufficient to point out to him that religion which by force he is to promote. And hereupon you think your cause gained, unless I could prove that which I think utterly false, viz. that there is as clear and solid grounds for the belief of false religions as there are for belief of the true, and that men may both as firmly and as rationally believe and embrace false religions as true. All which is bottomed upon this very false supposition, that in the want of knowledge nothing is sufficient to set the magistrate upon doing his duty in using of force to promote the true religion, but the firmest belief of its truth; whereas his own persuasion of the truth of his own religion, in what degree soever it be . . . he believes it to be true, will, if he think it his duty, be sufficient to set him to work.

This, as well as several other things in my former letters, stick with some readers, who want to have them clear; but such poor spirits deserve not to be regarded by a master of fencing, who answers by specimen, and relates by wholesale, and whose word is to be taken for sufficient guarantee of truth—the most commodious way that hath been yet found out for silencing objections, and putting an end to controversy.

## VIEW OF THE ESSAY.

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ON opening the MS. copy of the Essay on Human Understanding, dated 1671, I found the following paper without title or date: it is an Epitome or Abstract of the Essay, drawn up by Locke himself. The same which was translated by Le Clerc, and published in the Bibliotheque Universelle of 1688, before the Essay was given to the world.

Lib. 1. In the thoughts I have had concerning the Understanding, I have endeavoured to prove that the mind is at first *rasa tabula*. But that being only to remove the prejudice that lies in some men's minds, I think it best, in this short view I design here of my principles, to pass by all that preliminary debate which makes the first book, since I pretend to show in what follows the original from whence, and the ways whereby, we receive all the ideas our understandings are employed about in thinking.

Lib. 2. Chap. 1. The mind having been supposed void of all innate characters, comes to receive them by degrees as experience and observation lets them in; and we shall, upon consideration, find they all come from two originals, and are conveyed into the mind by two ways, viz. *sensation* and *reflection*.

1st. It is evident that outward objects, by affecting our senses, cause in our minds several ideas which were not there before; thus we come by the idea of red and blue, sweet and bitter, and whatever other perceptions are produced in us by *sensation*.

2d. The mind, taking notice of its own operation about these ideas received by sensation, comes to have ideas of those very operations that pass within itself; this is another source of ideas, and this

I call *reflection* ; and from hence it is we have the ideas of *thinking*, *willing*, *reasoning*, *doubting*, *purposing*, &c.

From these two originals it is that we have all the ideas we have ; and I think I may confidently say, that, besides what our senses convey into the mind, or the ideas of its own operations about those received from *sensation*, we have no ideas at all. From whence it follows—first, that where a man has always wanted any one of his senses, there he will always want the ideas belonging to that sense ; men born deaf or blind are sufficient proof of this. Secondly, it follows that if a man could be supposed void of all senses, he would also be void of all ideas ; because, wanting all sensation, he would have nothing to excite any operation in him, and so would have neither *ideas of sensation*, external objects having no way by any sense to excite them, nor *ideas of reflection*, his mind having no ideas to be employed about.

Chap. 2. To understand me right, when I say that we have not, nor can have, any ideas but of sensation, or of the operation of our mind about them, it must be considered that there are two sorts of ideas, simple and complex. It is of simple ideas that I here speak ; such as are the white colour of this paper, the sweet taste of sugar, &c., wherein the mind perceives no variety nor composition, but one uniform perception or idea ; and of these I say we have none but what we receive from *sensation* or *reflection* ; the mind is wholly passive in them, can make no new ones to itself, though out of these it can compound others, and make complex ones with great variety, as we shall see hereafter ; and hence it is, that though we cannot but allow that a sixth sense may be as possible, if our all-wise Creator had thought it fit for us, as the five he has bestowed ordinarily upon man, yet we can have by no means any ideas belonging to a sixth sense, and that for the same reason that a man born blind cannot have any ideas of colours, because they are to be had only by the fifth sense, that way of sensation which he always wanted.

Chap. 3, 4, 5, 6. I think I need not go about to set down all those ideas that are peculiar objects of each distinct sense, both



because it would be of no great use to give them by tale, they are most of them obvious enough to our present purpose, and also because they, most of them, want names; for, bating colours, and some few tangible qualities, which men have been a little more particular in denominating, though far short of their great variety, tastes, smells, and sounds, whereof there is no less a variety, have scarce any names at all, but some few very general ones. Though the taste of milk and a cherry be as distinct ideas as white and red, yet we see they have no particular names; sweet, sour, and bitter, are almost all the appellations we have for that almost infinite difference of relishes to be found in Nature. Omitting, therefore, the enumeration of the simple ideas peculiar to each sense, I shall here only observe that there are some ideas that are conveyed to the mind only by one sense, viz. colours by the sight only, sounds by the hearing, heat and cold by the touch, &c. Others again are conveyed into the mind by more than one sense, as motion, rest, space, and figure, which is but the termination of space, by both the sight and touch. Others there be that we receive only from reflexion; such are the ideas of thinking, and willing, and all their various modes. And some again that we receive from all the ways of *sensation*, and from *reflection* too, and those are number, existence, power, pleasure, and pain, &c. &c.

These, I think, are in general all, or at least the greater part, of the simple ideas we have, or are capable of, and which contain in them the materials of all our knowledge, out of which all our other ideas are made, and beyond which our minds have no thoughts nor knowledge at all.

Chap. 7. One thing more I shall remark concerning our simple ideas, and then proceed to show how out of them are made our complex ideas; and that is, that we are apt to mistake them, and take them to be resemblances of some thing in the objects that produce them in us, which, for the most part, they are not. This, though it lead us into the consideration of the way of the operation of bodies upon us by our senses, yet, however unwilling I am to engage

in any physical speculations, pretending here to give only an historical account of the understanding, and to set down the way and manner how the mind first gets the materials, and by what steps it proceeds in the attainment of knowledge ; yet it is necessary a little to explain this matter to avoid confusion and obscurity. For to discover the nature of sensible ideas the better, and discourse of them intelligibly, it will be convenient to distinguish them, as they are ideas or perceptions in our minds, and as they are in the bodies that cause such perceptions in us.

Whatsoever immediate object, whatsoever perception, be in the mind when it thinks, that I call *idea* ; and the power to produce any idea in the mind, I call *quality* of the subject wherein that power is. Thus, whiteness, coldness, roundness, as they are sensations or perceptions in the understanding, I call ideas ; as they are in a snow-ball, which has the power to produce these ideas in the understanding, I call them qualities.

The original qualities that may be observed in bodies, are solidity, extension, figure, number, motion, or rest ; these, in whatsoever state body is put, are always inseparable from it.

The next thing to be considered is, how bodies operate one upon another, and the only way intelligible to me is by impulse ; I can conceive no other. When then they produce in us the ideas of any of their original qualities which are really in them,—let us suppose that of extension or figure by the sight,—it is evident that the thing seen being at a distance, the impulse made on the organ must be by some insensible particles coming from the object to the eyes, and by a continuation of that motion to the brain, those ideas are produced in us. For the producing, then, of the ideas of these original qualities in our understandings, we can find nothing but the impulse and motion of some insensible bodies. By the same way we may also conceive how the ideas of the colour and smell of a violet may as well be produced in us as of its figure, viz. by a certain impulse on our eyes or noses, of particles of such a bulk, figure, number, and motion, as those that come from violets when we see or smell

them, and by the particular motion received in the organ from that impulse and continued to the brain ; it being no more impossible to conceive that God should annex such ideas to such motions with which they have no similitude, than that He should annex the idea of pain to the motion of a piece of steel dividing our flesh, with which that idea has also no resemblance.

What I have said concerning colours and smells may be applied to sounds and tastes, and all other ideas of bodies produced in us by the texture and motion of particles, whose single bulks are not sensible. And since bodies do produce in us ideas that contain in them no perception of bulk, figure, motion, or number of parts, as ideas of warmth, hunger, blueness, or sweetness, which yet it is plain they cannot do but by the various combinations of these *primary qualities*, however we perceive them not, I call the powers in bodies to produce these ideas in us secondary qualities.

From whence we may draw this inference, that the ideas of the *primary qualities* of bodies are resemblances of them, and their archetypes do really exist in the bodies themselves ; but the ideas produced in us by these *secondary qualities* have no resemblance of them at all. There is nothing existing in the bodies themselves that has any likeness to our ideas. 'Tis only in them a power to cause such sensations in us, and what is blue, sweet, or warm, in idea, is but the certain bulk, figure, and motion of the insensible parts of the bodies themselves to which we give those denominations. Chap. 8, 9, 10.

Chap. 11. Having showed how the mind comes by all its simple ideas, in the next place I shall show how these simple ideas are the materials of all our knowledge, and how, from several combinations of them, complex ones are made.

Though the mind cannot make to itself any one simple idea more than it receives from those two sole inlets, *Sensation* and *Reflection*, wherein it is merely passive, yet out of these being lodged in the memory, it can make, by repeating and several ways combi-



ning them, a great variety of other ideas, as well as receive in such combinations by the senses. I shall give some few instances of this in those that seem the most abstruse, and then proceed to other things.

Chap. 12. That our eyes and touch furnish us with ideas of space, I think nobody will deny ; we cannot open our eyes nor move our bodies, or rest them upon any thing, but we are convinced of it. Having got the idea of the length of our span, or the height and breadth of the door we usually go in and out at, or of the bulk of any body that familiarly comes in our way, we can repeat this idea in our minds as often as we will, and so increase that idea to what bigness we please by still adding the like or the double to the former ; and by this way, though sensation should supply us with no idea but of a foot, a yard, or a mile long, we could by this repetition attain and form to ourselves the idea of immensity, which had its foundation still in that idea of space we received by our senses, and is nothing but the enlargement of that by repetition. I shall not here set down what I have at large written, to show the clear distinction between the idea of body and space, which some have endeavoured to confound ; it shall suffice only to mention, that when *distance* is considered between any two things, abstract from any consideration of body filling up the interval, it may most properly be called *space*—when the distance is considered between the extremes of a solid body, it may fitly be called *extension*. The right application of these two terms, would, I hope, help us to avoid some confusion, which sometimes happens in discourses concerning body and space.

Chap. 13. Time and duration have a great conformity with extension and space. Had the original, from whence we have our idea of duration, been well considered, I imagine time would never have been thought *mensura motûs*, since it hath truly nothing to do with motion at all, and would be the same it is, were there no motion at all. He that will look into himself and observe what passes in his own mind, will find that various ideas appear and disappear

there in train all the time he is waking, and this so constantly, that though he is never without some whilst he is awake, yet it is not one single one that possesses his mind alone, but constantly new ones come in and go out again. If any one doubts of this, let him try to keep his thoughts fixed upon any one idea without any alteration at all; for if there be any the least alteration of thought by addition, subtraction, or any manner of change, there is then another, a new idea.

From this perpetual change of ideas observable in our minds, this train of new appearances there, we have the clear idea of succession. The existence of any thing commensurate to any part of such succession, we call it *duration*; and the distance between any two points of duration, we call *time*. That our ideas of time and duration have their original from this reflection is evident from hence, that whenever this succession of ideas ceases in our minds, we have no idea, no perception at all of duration, and therefore a man that sleeps without dreaming perceives no distance betwixt his falling asleep and waking; but if dreams furnish him with trains of ideas, the perception of duration accompanies them, and that comes in to his account of time.

Though mankind have made choice of the revolution of the sun and moon as the fittest measure of time, because they are every where observable, and not easily discernible to be unequal, yet this is not because of any connection between duration and motion; for any other regular periodical appearances, that were common to all the world, would measure time as well were it without any sensible motion.

Chap. 14. And though the word *time* is usually taken for that part of *duration* which is taken up by the existence of natural things, or the motions of the Heavens, as extension for that part of space which is commensurate and filled by body, yet the mind having got the idea of any portion of time, as a day, or a year, it can repeat it as often as it will, and so enlarge its ideas of duration beyond the being or motion of the sun, and have as clear an idea of the

763 years of the Julian period before the beginning of the world, as of any 763 years since. And from this power of repeating and enlarging its ideas of duration, without ever coming to an end, frame to itself the idea of eternity, as by endless addition of ideas of space it doth that of immensity.

Chap. 15. The idea of number, as has been observed, is suggested to us by reflection, and all the ways of sensation we count ideas, thoughts, bodies, every thing : and having got the idea of an unit, by the repetition and addition of one or more such units, make any combinations of numbers that we please.

Chap. 16. Whereas the mind can never come to the end of these additions, but finds in itself still the power of adding more in the proportion it pleases, hence we come by the idea of infinite, which, whether applied to space or duration, seems to me to be nothing else but this infinity of number, only with this difference, that in number, beginning at an unit, we seem to be at one end of the line which we can extend infinitely forward. In duration we extend the infinite end of number or addition two ways from us, both to duration past and duration to come ; and in space, as if we were in the centre, we can on every side add miles or diameters of the *orbis magnus*, &c., till number and the power of addition fail us, without any prospect or hopes of coming to an end.

That this is the idea we have of infinite made up of additions, with still an inexhaustible remainder, as much as there is in number, and not in any positive comprehensive idea of infinity, I shall not in the brevity I now propose to myself, set down the proofs of at large : let any one examine his own thoughts and see whether he can find any other but such an idea of infinity ; in the mean time, it suffices me to show how our idea of infinite is made up of the simple ideas derived from *sensation* and *reflection*. C. 18, 19.

Chap. 20. Amongst the simple ideas we receive both from *sensation* and *reflection*, *pleasure* and *pain* are none of the most inconsiderable ; they are our great concernment, and they often accompany our



other sensations and thoughts. For as there are few sensations of the body that do not bring with them also some degrees of *pleasure* or *pain*, so there are few thoughts of our minds so indifferent to us that do not delight or disturb us ; all which I comprehend under the names of *pleasure* and *pain*. That satisfaction or delight, uneasiness or trouble, which the mind receives from any either external sensation or internal thought whatsoever, has an aptness to cause, increase, or continue pleasure in us, or to lessen or shorten any pain we call *good*, and the contrary we call *evil* ; upon these two, *good* and *evil*, all our passions turn, and by reflecting on what our thoughts about them produce in us, we get the ideas of the passions.

Thus any one reflecting upon the thought he has of the delight which any present or absent thing is apt to produce in him, has the idea we call love. For when a man declares in autumn, when he is eating them, or in the spring when there are none, that he loves grapes, he means no more but that the taste of grapes delights him. The being and welfare of a man's children and friends producing constant delight in him, he is said constantly to love them. On the contrary, the thought of the pain which any thing present or absent is apt to produce in us, is what we call hatred.

The uneasiness a man finds in himself upon the absence of any thing whose present enjoyment carries the idea of delight with it, is that we call *desire*, which is greater or less, as that uneasiness is more or less.

Joy is a delight of the mind from the consideration of the present or future assured possession of a good. Thus a man almost starved, has joy at the arrival of relief even before he tastes it ; and we are then possessed of any good when we have it so in our power, that we can use it when we please ; a father in whom the very well-being of his children causes delight, is in the possession of that good, always as long as his children are in such an estate ; for he needs but to reflect on it, to have that pleasure.

Fear is an uneasiness of the mind upon the thought of future evil likely to befall us.

I will not go over all the passions ; they are not my business ; these are enough, I think, to show us how the ideas we have of them are derived from *sensation* and *reflection*.

Chap. 21. I shall only mention one more simple idea, and show how we come by it, and give some instances of some modifications of it, and then put an end to this part of simple ideas and their modes. Every man experiences in himself that he can move his hand or tongue, which before was at rest ; that he can apply his mind to other thoughts, and lay by those that he has at present ; hence he gets the idea of *power*.

All power regarding action, we have, as I think, the ideas but of two sorts of action ; viz. *motion* and *thinking*.

The power we find in ourselves to prefer this or that peculiar thought to its absence, this or that peculiar motion to rest, is that we call *will*. And the actual preference of any action to its forbearance, or *vice versa*, is *volition*.

The power we find in ourselves to act or not to act, conformable to such preference of our minds, gives us the idea we call *liberty*.

Chap. 22. Having thus in short given an account of the original of all our simple ideas, and in the instances of some of them showed how, from certain modifications of them, the mind arrives at those that seem at first sight to be very far from having their original in any ideas received from sensation, or from any operation of our minds about them, I shall now proceed to those that are more complex, and show that all the ideas we have (whether of natural or moral things, bodies or spirits,) are only certain combinations of these simple ideas got from *sensation* or *reflection*, beyond which our thoughts, even when they ascend up into the highest heavens, cannot extend themselves.

The complex ideas we have, may, I think, be all reduced to these three sorts, viz. :—

Substances,  
Modes, and  
Relations.

Chap. 23. That there are a great variety of substances in this world is past doubt to every one; let us then see what ideas we have of those particular substances about which our thoughts are at any time employed. Let us begin with those more general ideas of body and spirit. I ask, what other idea a man has of body, but of *solidity*, *extension* and *mobility* joined together, which are all simple ideas received from sense. Perhaps some one here will be ready to say, that to have a complete idea of body, the idea of *substance* must be added to *solidity* and *extension*. But of him that makes that objection, I shall demand what his idea of substance is? So likewise, our idea of spirit is of a substance that has the power to *think* and to *move body*, from which, by the way, I conclude that we have as clear an idea of spirit as we have of body; for in one we have the clear ideas of *solidity*, *extension* and *mobility*, or a power of being moved with an ignorance of its *substance*, and in the other we have two as clear ideas, viz. of *thinking* and *motivity*, if I may so say, or a power of moving with a like ignorance of its *substance*. For substance in both is but a supposed but unknown substratum of those qualities, something we know not what, that supports their existence; so that all the idea we have of the substance of any thing, is an obscure idea of what it does, and not any idea of what it is. This farther I have to add, that our idea of substance, whether spiritual or corporeal, being equally obscure, and our ideas of *mobility* and *motivity* (if I may for shortness' sake coin that new word) being equally clear in both, there remains only to compare *extension* and *thinking*. These ideas are both very clear, but the difficulty that some have raised against the notion of a spirit, has been that they said they could not conceive an unextended thinking thing, and I on the contrary affirm that they can as easily conceive an unextended thinking thing as an extended solid. To make an extended solid, there must be an idea of a cohesion of parts, and I say it is as easy to conceive how a spirit thinks, as how solid parts cohere; that is, how a body is extended; for where there are no cohering parts, there are



no parts, *extra partes*, and consequently no extension ; for if body be divisible, it must have united parts, and if there were no cohesion of the parts of body, body would quite be lost, and cease to be. He that can tell me what holds together the parts of steel or a diamond, will explain a fundamental difficulty in natural philosophy. Bernouli, who has endeavoured to explain the coherence of the parts of all bodies by the pressure of the other, hath made two great oversights : 1st. That he takes no notice that let the pressure of any ambient fluid be as great as it will, yet that if there be nothing else to hold the parts of any body together, though they cannot be pulled asunder perpendicularly, yet it is demonstrable they may be slid off from one another, as easily as if there were no such pressure, and the experiment of two polished marbles held together by the pressure of the atmosphere, makes it evident to sense, since they can so easily by a side motion be separated, though they cannot by a perpendicular.

That he takes no care of the particles of the other itself, for they too being bodies, and consisting of parts, must have something to hold them together, which cannot be themselves ; for it is as hard to conceive how the parts of the least atom of matter are fastened together, as how the greatest masses, and yet, without this, we have as great a difficulty to conceive body as spirit, an extended as a thinking thing.

But whether the notion of a spirit be more obscure, or less obscure, than that of body, this is certain that we get it no other way than we do that of body ; for as, by our senses, we receiving the ideas of *solidity, extension, motion, and rest*, and supposing them inherent in an unknown substance, we have the idea of body ; so by collecting together the simple ideas we have got by reflecting on these operations of our own minds, which we experience daily in ourselves, as *thinking, understanding, willing, knowing*, and the *power of moving* bodies, and by supposing those, and the rest of the operations of our minds, to be co-existing in some substance, which also we know not, we come to have the idea of those beings we call spirits.

The ideas we have of *understanding* and *power*, which we have from reflection on what passes in ourselves, joined to *duration*, and all these enlarged by our idea of *infinite*, gives us the idea of that Supreme Being we call *God*; and to satisfy us that all our complex ideas contain nothing in them but the simple ideas taken from *sensation* and *reflection*, we need but cast our thoughts on the different species of spirits that are or may be; for though it be possible there may be more species of spiritual beings between us and God upwards, than there are of sensible beings between us and nothing downwards, we being at a greater distance from infinite perfection than from the lowest degree of being, yet it is certain we can conceive no other difference between those various ranks of angelic natures, but barely different degrees of understanding and power, which are but different modifications of the two simple ideas we got from reflecting on what passes in ourselves.

As to our ideas of natural substances, it is evident they are nothing but such combinations of simple ideas as have been observed by *sensation* to exist together; for what is our idea of *gold*, but of a certain *yellow shining* colour, a certain degree of *weight*, *malleableness*, *fusibility*, and perhaps *fixedness*, or some other simple ideas put together in our minds, as constantly co-existing in the same substance, which complex idea consists of more or fewer simple ones as his observation who made this combination was more or less accurate. And thus I think from *sensation* and *reflection*, and the simple ideas got thence, differently combined and modified, we come by all our ideas of substances.

Another sort of complex ideas there is, which I call *modes*, which are certain combinations of simple ideas, not including the obscure one we have of substance: of these *modes* there are two sorts, one where the combination is made of simple ideas, of the same kind as a dozen or a score made up of a certain collection of units; the other sort of modes is, when the combination is made up of ideas of several kinds, such are the ideas signified by the words obligation, friendship, a lie. The former sort, whereof I have

above given several instances, I call *simple modes*; the latter I call *mixed modes*.

These mixed modes, though of an endless variety, yet they are all made up of nothing but simple ideas, derived from sensation or reflection, as is easy for any one to observe who will, with ever so little attention, examine them. For example, if a lie be speaking an untruth knowingly, it comprehends the simple ideas—1st. Of articulate sounds: 2d. The relation of these sounds to ideas, whereof they are the marks: 3d. The putting those marks together differently from what the ideas they stand for are in the mind of the speaker. 4th. The knowledge of the speaker, that he makes a wrong use of these marks, all which are either simple ideas, or may be resolved into them. In like manner are all other mixed modes made up of simple ideas combined together; it would be endless, as well as needless, to go about to enumerate all the mixed modes that are in the minds of men, they containing almost the whole subject about which Divinity, Morality, Law, and Politics, and several other sciences, are employed. Chap. 24.

Chap. 25, 26, 27. Besides the ideas, whether simple or complex, that the mind has of things as they are in themselves, there are others it gets from their comparison one with another; this we call *relation*; which is such a consideration of one thing as intimates or involves in it the consideration of another; now since any of our ideas may be so considered by us in one thing as to intimate and lead our thoughts to another, therefore all, both simple and complex, may be foundations of relation, which, however large it is, yet we may perceive hereby how it derives itself originally from *sensation* and *reflection*, it having no other foundation but ideas derived from thence. I shall not need to go over the several sorts of relations to show it; I shall only remark that to relation it is necessary there should be two ideas or things, either in themselves really separate, or considered as distinct, which being not both always taken notice of makes several terms pass for the marks of positive ideas, which are in truth relative; viz. great and old, &c., are ordinarily as relative terms as greater and older, though it be not commonly so



thought ; for when we say Caius is older than Sempronius, we compare these two persons in the idea of duration, and signify one to have more than the other ; but when we say Caius is old, or an old man, we compare his duration to that which we look on to be the ordinary duration of men. Hence it is harsh to say a diamond or the sun is old, because we have no idea of any length of duration belonging ordinarily to them, and so have no such idea to compare their age to as we have of those things we usually call old.

This is, in short, what I think of the several sorts of complex ideas we have, which are only these three, viz. of *substances*, *modes*, and *relations*, which being made up, and containing in them nothing but several combinations of simple ideas received from sensation and reflection, I conclude that in all our thoughts, contemplations, and reasonings, however abstract or enlarged, our minds never go beyond those simple ideas we have received from those two inlets, viz. sensation and reflection. Chap. 28, 29, 30, 31.

Lib. III. When I had considered the ideas the mind of man is furnished with, how it comes by them, and of what kind they are, I thought I had no more to do but to proceed to the further examination of our intellectual faculty, and see what use the mind made of those materials or instruments of knowledge which I had collected in the foregoing book ; but when I came a little nearer to consider the nature and manner of human knowledge, I found it had so much to do with propositions, and that words, either by custom or necessity, were so mixed with it, that it was impossible to discourse of knowledge with that clearness one should, without saying something first of words and language.

Chap. 1. The ideas in men's minds are so wholly out of sight to others, that men could have had no communication of thoughts without some signs of their ideas.

The most convenient signs, both for their variety and quickness, that men are capable of, are articulate sounds, which we call words. Words then are signs of ideas ; but no articulate sound

having any natural connection with any idea, but barely of the sound itself, words are only signs (Chap. 2) by voluntary imposition, and can be properly and immediately signs of nothing but the ideas in the mind of him that uses them; for being employed to express what he thinks, he cannot make them signs of ideas he has not, for that would be to make them signs of nothing. It is true words are frequently used with two other suppositions—1st. It is commonly supposed that they are signs of the ideas in the mind of him with whom we communicate; this is reasonably supposed, because unless this be so the speaker cannot be understood; but it not always happening that the ideas in the mind of the hearer always exactly answer those to which the speaker applies his words, this supposition is not always true. 2d. It is commonly supposed that words stand not only for ideas, but for things themselves; but that they should stand immediately for things is impossible, for since they can be signs immediately of nothing but what is in the mind of the speaker, and there being nothing there but ideas, they stand for things no otherwise than as the ideas in the mind agree to them.

Chap. 3. Words are of two sorts, general terms or names of particular things; all things that exist being particular, what need of general terms? and what are those general natures they stand for, since the greatest part of words in common use are general terms? As to the first; particular things are so many that the mind could not retain names for them, and in the next place, could the memory retain them, they would be useless, because the particular beings known to one would be utterly unknown to another, and so their names would not serve for communication where they stood not for an idea common to both speaker and hearer: besides, our progress to knowledge being by generals, we have need of general terms. As to the second, the general natures general terms stand for, are only general ideas, and ideas become general only by being abstracted from time and place and other particularities, that make them the representatives only of individuals, by which separation of some

ideas which annexed to them make them particular, they are made capable of agreeing to several particulars; thus ideas come to represent not one particular existence, but a sort of things as their names, to stand for sorts, which sorts are usually called by the Latin terms of art, genus and species, of which each is supposed to have its particular essence; and though there be much dispute and stir about genus and species, and their essences, yet in truth the essence of each genus and species, or to speak English, of each sort of things, is nothing else but the abstract idea in the mind which the speaker makes the general term the sign of. It is true every particular thing has a real constitution by which it is what it is; and this, by the genuine notion of the word, is called its essence or being; but the word essence having been transferred from its original signification, and applied to the artificial species and genera of the schools, men commonly look on essences to belong to the sorts of things as they are ranked under different general denominations, and in this sense essences are truly nothing but the abstract ideas which those general terms are by any one made to stand for. The first of these may be called the *real*, the second the *nominal essence*, which sometimes are the same, sometimes quite different one from another.

Chap. 4. The nature and signification of words will be made a little more clear if we consider them with relation to those three several sorts of ideas I have formerly mentioned, viz. simple ideas, substances, and modes, under which also I comprehend relations. 1st. The names of simple ideas and substances intimate some real existence from whence they are taken, as from their patterns; but the names of mixed modes terminate in the mind, and therefore I think it is they have the peculiar names of notions. 2nd. The names of simple ideas and modes signify always the real as well as nominal essences; the names of substances seldom, if ever, any thing but the nominal essence. 3rd. The names of simple ideas are of all other the least doubtful and uncertain. 4th. But that which I think of great use to remark, and which I do not find any body has taken notice of, is that the names of simple ideas are not definable,



but those of all complex ideas are ; for a definition being nothing but the making known the idea that one word stands for by several others not synonymous words, it cannot have place in any but complex ideas. It is very manifest how both the Peripatetics and even modern philosophers, for want of observing this, have trifled or talked jargon, in endeavouring to define the names of some few of the simple ideas, for, as to the greatest part of them, they found it best to let them alone ; for though they have attempted the definitions of motion and light, yet they have forborne to offer at any definitions of the greatest part of simple ideas ; and those definitions of light and motion they have ventured at, when strictly examined, will be found to be as insignificant as any thing can be said ; to explain which the term red or sweet signifies when a man can be found that can by words make a blind man understand what idea the word blue stands for, then also may he be able by a definition to make a man have the true signification of the word motion or light who never had it any other way. 5th. The names of simple ideas have but few assents in *linea pradicamentali*, as they call it, because these ideas, not being compounded, nothing can be left out of any of them to make it more general and comprehensive, and therefore the name *colour*, which comprehends *red* and *blue*, &c., denotes only the simple ideas that come in by the sight.

Chap. 5. As to the names of mixed modes and relations, which are all of them general terms—1st. The essences of their several sorts are all of them made by the understanding. 2nd. They are made arbitrarily and with great liberty, wherein the mind confines not itself to the real existence of any patterns. 3rd. But though the essences or species of mixed modes are made without patterns, yet they are not made at random without reason. Not only signification, but shortness also, and dispatch, is one of the great conveniences of language ; and hence it is suitable to the end of speech not only that we should make use of sounds for signs of ideas, but also that one short sound should be the sign of many distinct ideas combined into one complex one. Suitable to this end, men unite into

one complex idea many scattered and independent ones, and give a name to it where they have occasion often to think on such combinations, and express them to others, and thus several species of mixed modes are made arbitrarily by men giving names to certain combinations of ideas, which have in themselves no more connexion than others which are not by any denomination so united. This is evident in the diversity of languages, there being nothing more ordinary than to find many words in one language which have none that answer them in another.

Chap. 6. The names of substances signify only their nominal essences, and not their real essences, which two essences in substances are far different things, *v. g.* the colour, weight, malleability, fusibility, fixedness, and perhaps some other sensible qualities, make up the complex idea men have in their minds, to which they give the name gold; but the texture of the insensible parts, or whatever else it be, on which these sensible qualities depend, which is its real constitution or essence, is quite a different thing, and would give us quite another idea of gold if we knew it; but since we have no idea of that constitution, and can signify nothing by our words, but the ideas we have, our name gold cannot signify that real essence. It is therefore by their nominal essences that substances are ranked into sorts under several denominations, which nominal essences being nothing but abstract, complex ideas, made up in various men of various collections of simple ideas which they have observed or imagined to co-exist together, it is plain the essences of the species of substances, and consequently the species themselves as ranked under distinct denominations, are of men's making. I do not say the substances themselves are made by men, nor the likeness and agreement that is to be found in them, but the boundaries of the species, as marked by distinct names, are made by men.

But though men make the essences whereby the species of substances are limited and distinguished, yet they make them not so arbitrarily as they do in modes, for in substances they propose to themselves the real existence of things as the patterns they would

follow, yet through their variety of skill or attention, their complex idea, made up of a collection of sensible qualities, signified by the same specific name, is in various men very different, the one putting in simple ideas that the other has omitted; but the real essences supposed of the species of things must be, if there were any such, invariably the same. If the first sorting of individuals into their lowest species depend on the mind of man, as has been shown, it is much more evident that the more comprehensive classes, called *genera* by the masters of logic, are so, which are complex ideas designedly imperfect, out of which are purposely left several of those qualities that are to be found constantly in the things themselves as they exist; for as the mind to make general ideas comprehending several particular beings, leaves out those of time and place, and others that make them incommunicable to more than one individual, so, to make others yet more general that may comprehend different sorts, it leaves out these qualities that distinguish them, and puts into its new collection only such ideas as are common to several sorts; so that in this whole business of genus and species, the genus, or more comprehensive, is but a partial conception of what is in the species, and the species but a partial idea of what is to be found in each individual; this is suited to the true end of speech, which is to denote by one short sound a great many particulars as they agree in one common conception *genera*; and species, then, seem to me to be nothing but sorting of things in order to denomination, and the essence of each sort is nothing but the abstract idea to which the denomination is annexed; for a little attention will teach us that to particular things nothing is essential, but as soon as they come to be ranked under any general name, which is the same as to be reckoned of any species, then presently something is essential to them, viz. all that is comprehended in the complex idea that that name stands for.

This farther is to be observed concerning substances, that they alone, of all the several sorts of ideas, have proper names; to which we may add, that though the specific names of substances can sig-



nify nothing but the abstract ideas in the mind of the speaker, and so consequently the substances that agree to that idea, yet men in their use of them often substitute them in the room of, and would suppose them to stand for, things having the real essence of that species, which breeds great confusion and uncertainty in their use of words.

Chap. 7. Words have a double use; 1st. to record our own thoughts; and for this any words will serve, so they be kept constantly to the same ideas. 2d. To communicate our thoughts with others, and for this use they must be common signs standing for the same ideas in those who have communication together. In communication they have also a double use.

1st. Civil.

2d. Philosophical.

The first of these is that which serves for the upholding of common conversation and commerce. The philosophical use is to convey the precise notions of things, and to express in general propositions certain and undoubted truths, which the mind may rest upon, and be satisfied with in its search after true knowledge.

In this last use of words they are especially liable to great imperfections of uncertainty and obscurity in their signification.

Words naturally signifying nothing, it is necessary that their signification, *i. e.* the precise ideas they stand for, be settled and retained, which is hard to be done.

1st. Where the ideas they stand for are very complex, and made up of a great number of ideas put together.

2d. Where the ideas that make up the complex one they stand for have no connection in nature, and so there is no settled standard any where existing in nature to rectify and adjust them by.

3d. Where the signification of the word is referred to a standard existing, which yet is not easy to be known.

4th. Where the signification of the word and the real essence of the thing are not exactly the same. The names of mixed modes

are very much liable to doubtfulness, for the two first of these reasons, and the names of substances chiefly for the two latter.

According to these rules, as well as experience, we shall find First, That the names of simple ideas are the least liable to uncertainty, 1st. because they are simple, and so easily got and retained ; 2d. because they are referred to nothing but that very perception which things in nature are fitted to produce in us.

Second, That names of mixed modes are very uncertain, because the complex ideas they are the signs of have no standing patterns existing in nature whereby to be regulated and adjusted ; their archetypes are only in the minds of men, and therefore uncertain to be known, and being very much compounded and often decomposed, are very hardly to be exactly agreed on and retained. Where shall one find an assemblage of all the ideas the word *Glory* stands for, existing together ? and the precise complex idea the name Justice is the sign of, is seldom, I imagine, settled and retained.

Third, The names of substances are very uncertain, because their complex ideas not being voluntary compositions, but referred to patterns that exist, are yet referred to patterns that cannot at all be known, or at least can be known but very imperfectly ; 1st. as has been showed, sometimes the names of substances are supposed to stand for their supposed real essences. Every thing having a real constitution, whereby it is what it is, this is apt to be called its essence, as if it were the essence of a species ; but whether it be or no, this is certain, that it being utterly unknown it is impossible to know in such a supposition or reference, of the name which any word stands for. 2d. Sometimes the ideas the names of substances stand for are copied from the sensible qualities to be observed in bodies existing ; but in this which is their proper use, it is not easy to adjust their significations, because the qualities that are to be found in substances out of which we make their complex ideas, being for the most part powers, they are almost infinite, and one of them having no more right than another to be put into our complex ideas,

which are to be copies of these originals, it is very hard by these patterns to adjust the signification of their names, and therefore it is very seldom that the same name of any substance stands in two men for the same complex idea.

Chap. 8. To this natural imperfection of words it is not unusual for men to add voluntary abuses, some whereof I take notice of, as, 1st. The using of words without any clear and determinate signification: this whole sects in philosophy and religion are frequently guilty of, there being very few of them who, either out of affectation of singularity, or to cover some weak part of their system, do not make use of some terms which it is plain have no clear and determinate ideas annexed to them. Besides these appropriated terms of parties, which never had any distinct meaning, there are others who use ordinary words of common language, without having in their minds any precise ideas they stand for; it is enough that they have learned the words that are common in the language of their country, which serving well enough to be produced in talk, they dispense with themselves from being solicitous about any clear notions to be signified by them; and if men who have them often in their mouths should be examined, what they mean by *Reason* or *Grace*, &c. they would often be found to have in their minds no distinct ideas which these and the like words were the signs of. 2d. Another abuse is inconstancy, or putting the same word as the sign sometimes of one idea, sometimes of another, in the same discourse. There is nothing more ordinary in all controversies, where one can seldom miss to find the same sound often put for different significations, and that not only in the incidental parts of the discourse, but in those terms which are the most material in the debate, and on which the question turns. 3d. To this may be added an affected obscurity, either in the use of old words, or the coining of new ones. To this nothing has so much contributed as the method and learning of the schools, where all has been adapted to and measured by dispute. This way of proceeding unavoidably runs all into multiplication and perplexity of terms. This perverse



abuse of language, having under the esteemed name of subtilty gained the reputation and rewards of true knowledge, how much it has hindered real improvements the world is now satisfied. 4th. The next abuse of language is the taking words for things; this most concerns the names of substances, for men having feigned to themselves peculiar and groundless ideas, proportionably as they have thought fit to contrive or espouse some certain system of natural philosophy, have suited names to them, which, growing into familiar use, came afterwards among their followers to carry with them the opinion of reality, as if they were the necessary and unavoidable marks of things themselves. Thus, substantial forms and intentional species, and abundance of such other terms, have by their common and unquestioned use carried men into the persuasion that there were such things, it being hard for them to believe that their fathers and masters, learned men and divines, should make use of names that stood for fancies only, that never had any real being in the world. The supposing words to stand for the real essences of substances is an abuse which I have already mentioned. 5th. Another more general, though less observed abuse of words is, to suppose their signification so clear and settled that a man cannot be mistaken what ideas they stand for; and hence men think it strange to ask or be asked the meaning of their words, when yet it is plain that many times the certain signification of a man's words cannot be any otherwise known but by his telling what precise idea he makes any word the sign of. 6th. Figurative speeches and all the artificial ornaments of rhetoric are truly an abuse of language also; but this, like the fair sex, has too prevailing beauties in it to suffer itself ever to be spoken against, and it is in vain to find fault with those arts of deceiving wherein men find a pleasure to be deceived.

Chap. 9. That which has nourished disputes and spread errors in the world being chiefly the imperfection or abuse of words before mentioned, it would be of no small advantage to truth and quiet, if men would apply themselves seriously to a more careful and candid

use of language, wherein I shall offer some easy and obvious cautions to those who have a mind to be ingenuous ; for I am not so vain as to think of reforming so prevailing an abuse, wherein so many men imagine they find their account. Though I think nobody will deny, 1st. That every one should take care to use no word without a signification,—no vocal sign without some idea he had in his mind, and would express by it. 2nd. That idea he uses a sign for, should be clear and distinct ; all the simple ideas it is made up of, if it be complex, it should be settled. This, as it is necessary in all our names of complex ideas, so is most carefully to be observed in moral names, which being compounded and decompounded of several simple ones, our ideas are not right as they should be, and consequently our words are full of uncertainty and obscurity, and neither others nor we ourselves know what we mean by them till we have so settled in our minds the complex idea we would have each word stand for, that we can readily enumerate all the particulars that make it up, and resolve it into all its component simple ones. 3rd. These ideas must be accommodated as near as we can to the common signification of the word in its ordinary use. It is this propriety of speech which gives the stamp under which words are current, and it is not for every private man to alter their value at pleasure.

But because common use has left many if not most words very loose in their signification, and because a man is often under a necessity of using a known word in some with a peculiar sense, therefore it is often his duty to show the meaning of this or that term, especially where it concerns the main subject of discourse or question. This showing the meaning of our terms, to do it well, must be suited to the several sorts of ideas they stand for. The best, and in many cases the only, way to make known the meaning of the name of a simple idea is by producing it by the senses. The only way of making known the meaning of the names of mixed modes, at least moral words, is by definition ; and the best way of making known the meaning of the names of most bodies is both by showing and by

definition together ; many of their distinguishing qualities being not so easily made known by words, and many of them not without much pains and preparation discoverable by our senses.

Chap. 10. What words signify, and how much we are to beware that they impose not on us, I have shown, it being necessary to be premised to our consideration of knowledge, the business of the next book ; only, before I conclude this, I take notice of one ordinary distinction of words, because I think it gives us some light into our ideas ; viz. Abstract and concrete terms, concerning which we may observe, 1st. That no two abstract ideas ever affirmed one of another. 2nd. That simple ideas and modes have all of them abstract as well as concrete names ; but substances only concrete, except some few abstract names of substances in vain affected by the schools, which could never get into common use of *corporietas* and *animalitas*, &c. The first of these seems to me to show us that two distinct ideas are two distinct essences that cannot be affirmed one of another. The latter carries with it a plain confession that men have no ideas of the real essences of the sorts of substances, since they have put into their languages no names for them.

## LIB. IV.

THE two foregoing books were of ideas and words, this is of knowledge.

Chap. 1. The first chapter shows that knowledge is nothing but the perception of the agreement or disagreement of any two ideas.

This agreement or disagreement, for the clearer explaining of this matter is reduced to these four sorts :

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Identity,       | 2. Coexistence, |
| 3. Real Existence, | 4. Relation.    |

1st. It is the first and fundamental act of our understanding to perceive the ideas it has, to know each what it is, and perceive wherein it differs from any others ; without this, the mind could



neither have variety of thoughts nor discourse, judge or reason about them. By this faculty, the mind perceives what idea it has when it sees a violet and knows blue is not yellow.

2nd. Our ideas of substances, as I have showed, consist in certain collections of single ideas which the specific name stands for; and our inquiry, for the most part, concerning substances, is what other qualities they have; which is no more but this, what other ideas coexist and are to be found united with those of our complex ideas. Thus, whether gold be fixed, is to inquire whether the power of abiding in the fire without wasting be an idea which coexists in the same subject with those ideas of yellowness, weight, malleability and fusibility, whereof my idea of gold is made up.

The 3rd sort of agreement is, whether a real existence out of my mind agrees to any idea I have there.

4th. The last sort of agreement or disagreement of any ideas, is in any other sort of relation between them. Thus, *sweetness is not bitterness*, is of identity. *Iron is susceptible of magnetical impressions*, is of co-existence. *God is*, is of existence. *Two triangles upon equal basis between two parallels are equal*, is of relation.

Chap 2. According to the different way of perceiving the agreement or disagreement of any of our ideas, so is the evidence of our knowledge different. Sometimes the mind perceives the agreement or disagreement of two ideas immediately; thus it perceives that red is not yellow, that a circle is not a triangle, that three is more than two, and equal to one and two; and this we may call *intuitive knowledge*. When the agreement or disagreement of any two ideas cannot be immediately perceived, but the mind makes use of the intervention of other ideas to show it, then (as the word imports) it is *demonstration*.

Thus the mind not being able to bring the three angles of a triangle and two right ones so together as to be able immediately to perceive their equality, it makes use of some other angles to measure them by.

To produce knowledge this way, there must be an intuitive

knowledge of the agreement or disagreement of the intermediate ideas in each step of the deduction, for without that there can be no demonstration, the agreement or disagreement of the two ideas under consideration is not shown ; for where any agreement or disagreement of any two ideas is not self-evident, *i. e.* cannot be immediately perceived, there it will always need a proof to show it. This sort, which may be called *rational or demonstrative knowledge*, however certain, is not so clear and evident as *intuitive*, because here the memory must intervene to retain the connection of all the parts of the demonstration one with another, and be sure that none is omitted in the account, which in long deductions requires great attention to avoid mistake. Why demonstration is generally thought to belong only to ideas of quantity, I shall not in this short epitome mention.

These two sorts are all the knowledge we have of general truths. Of the existence of some particular finite beings we have knowledge by our senses, which we may call *sensitive knowledge*.

Chap. 3. From what has been said, it follows :

1st. That we can have no knowledge where we have no ideas.

2nd. That our intuitive knowledge reaches not so far as our ideas, because the greatest part of them cannot be so immediately compared as to discover the agreement or disagreement we seek.

3rd. Neither can *rational and demonstrative knowledge* make out the agreement or disagreement of all those of our ideas wherein we fail of intuitive knowledge, because we cannot always find mediums to connect them intuitively together.

4th. Sensitive knowledge reaching no further than the actual presence of particular things to our senses, is much narrower than either of the former.

That which I would infer from this is, that our knowledge is not only infinitely short of the whole extent of beings, if we compare this little spot of earth we are confined to, to that part of the universe which we have some knowledge of, which probably is all of it but a point in respect to what is utterly beyond our discovery,

and consider the vegetables, animals, rational corporeal creatures, (not to mention the ranks and orders of spirits,) and other things, with different qualities suited to senses different from ours, whereof we have no notion at all, which may be in them, we shall have reason to conclude that the things whereof we have ideas, are very few in respect of those whereof we have none at all.

In the next place, if we consider how few, how imperfect, and how superficial those ideas are which we have of the things that lie nearest our examination, and are best known to us ; and lastly, if we consider how few they are of those few ideas we have, whose agreement or disagreement we are able to discover, we shall have reason to conclude that our understandings were not proportioned to the whole extent of being, nor men made capable of knowing all things, but that it fails us in the greatest part of the inquiry concerning those ideas we have.

1st. As to identity and diversity, it is true our intuitive knowledge is as large as our ideas themselves ; but, 2nd, on the other side, *we have scarce any general knowledge at all of the coexistence of any ideas*, because, not being able to discover the causes whereon the secondary qualities of substances depend, nor any connexion between such causes and our ideas, there are very few cases wherein we can know the coexistence of any other idea with that complex one we have of any sort of substances, whereby our knowledge of substances comes to be almost none at all. 3rd. As to other relations of our ideas, how far our knowledge may reach is yet uncertain ; this I think, morality, if rightly studied, is capable of demonstration as well as mathematics. 4th. As to existence we have an intuitive knowledge of our own, a demonstrative one of a God, and a sensible one of some few other things.

I shall not here, in this short compendium I am giving of my thoughts, mention those particulars which I have set down to show up the narrowness of our knowledge ; that which I have here said may, I suppose, suffice to convince men, that what we know bears no proportion to that which we are invincibly ignorant of.



Besides the extent of our knowledge in respect of the sorts of things, we may consider another kind of its extent, which is in respect of its universality. When the ideas are abstract, our knowledge about them is general: abstract ideas are the essences of species, howsoever named, and are the foundations of universal and eternal verities.

Chap. 4. It will perhaps be said, that knowledge placed thus in the consideration of our ideas may be chimerical, and leave us ignorant of things as they really are in themselves, since we see men may often have very extravagant ideas; to which I answer, that our knowledge is real so far as our ideas are conformable to things, and no farther. To be able to know what ideas are conformable to the realities of things, we must consider the different sorts of ideas I have above mentioned.

1st. Simple ideas we cannot but know to be conformable to things, because the mind not being able to make any simple ideas to itself, those it has must needs be conformable to that power which is in things to produce them, which conformity is sufficient for real knowledge.

2nd. All our complex ideas, but those of substances, are conformable to the reality of things; and this we may certainly know, because they being archetypes made by the mind, and not designed to be copies of any thing existing, things are intended in our discourses and reasonings about these ideas no farther than as they are conformable to these ideas.

3rd. Our complex ideas of substances being designed to be copies of archetypes existing without us, we can be no farther sure that our knowledge concerning any of them is real, than the real existence of things has made it evident that such a collection of simple ideas, as our complex one is made up of, can coexist together; the reason whereof is, because not knowing the real constitution on which these qualities depend, we cannot but by experience know which of them are, and which are not, capable to exist together in the same subject; and if we put other than such that are capable

to exist together into any complex idea, our knowledge concerning such an idea of a substance will be only concerning a chimera of our own, and not of any real being.

Chap. 5. According to this account of knowledge, we may come to discover what *truth* is, which appears to be nothing else but the joining or separating of signs according as things themselves agree or disagree. The joining and separating I here mean is, such as is made by affirmation and negation, and is called *proposition*. Now the signs we use being of two sorts, viz. ideas and words; propositions also are of two sorts, viz. *mental* or *verbal*; truth also is two-fold, either *real* or *barely verbal*. Real truth in any proposition is when the terms are affirmed or denied as the ideas they stand for agree or disagree, and as the ideas also themselves agree to their archetypes. Verbal truth is when the affirmation or negation is made according to the agreement or disagreement of our ideas, but the ideas themselves have no conformity with their archetypes.

Chap. 6. Truth being for the most part conveyed to our understandings, or considered by us in propositions, it will be of moment to examine what propositions are capable to convey to our understandings the certain knowledge of general truths.

1st. Then I say that in all general propositions, where the terms are supposed to stand for species constituted and determined by real essences distinct from the nominal, we are not capable of any certain knowledge, because not knowing that real essence, we cannot know what particular things have it, and so can never know what particular things are of that species. This frequently happens in propositions concerning substances in other things, not because in the species of other things there is no supposed real essence different from the nominal.

2nd. In all general propositions where the terms are substituted only in the place of the nominal essence or abstract idea, and so the species determined by that alone, there we are capable of certainty as far as the agreement or disagreement of such abstract ideas can be perceived; but this also reaches but a very little way in substances,

because the necessary co-existence or inconsistency of any other ideas with any of those that make up one complex one of any sort of substances, is in very few cases discoverable.

Chap. 7. There are a sort of propositions which, passing under the title of maxims, are by some men received as innates, and by most esteemed as the foundations of knowledge; but if what we have said concerning self-evident or intuitive knowledge be well considered, we shall find that these dignified axioms are neither innate nor have any other self-evidence than a thousand other propositions, some whereof are known before them, and others altogether as clearly, and therefore they are neither innate, nor be the foundations of all our knowledge or reasonings as they are thought to be.

*Whatsoever it is, and it is impossible for the same to be and not to be*, it is granted are self-evident propositions; but he that considers the nature of the understanding and the ideas in it, and that it is unavoidable for the understanding to know its own ideas, and to know those to be distinct that are so, must needs observe, that these supposed fundamental principles of knowledge and reasoning are no more self-evident than that one is one, and red red, and that it is impossible one should be two, or red blue; of these and the like propositions, we have as certain a knowledge as of those other called maxims, and a much earlier; and can any body imagine that a child knows not that wormwood is not sugar, but by virtue of this axiom? That it is impossible for the same thing to be and not to be; intuitive knowledge extends itself to all our ideas in respect of identical agreement or disagreement, therefore all propositions made concerning this sort of agreement or disagreement, whether in more or less general terms, so the ideas they stand for be but known, are all equally self-evident. As to the agreement or disagreement of co-existence, we have very little intuitive knowledge, and therefore, concerning that there are very few self-evident propositions and little talk of axioms. In the third sort of agreement, viz. relation, the mathematicians have dignified several general propositions concerning equality with



the title of axioms, though these have no other sort of certainty than all other self-evident propositions; and though, when they are once made familiar to the mind, they are often made use of to show the absurdity of wrong reasoning and erroneous opinions in particular instances; yet the way wherein the mind attains knowledge, is not by beginning and setting out from these general propositions, but in the quite contrary method; it begins its knowledge in particulars, and thence gradually enlarges it to more general ideas.

Chap. 8. Besides these there are other propositions, which are many of them certain, but convey no real truth to our knowledge, being barely about the signification of words.

1st. Where any part of any complex idea is predicated of the name of that complex idea, such a proposition is only about the signification of the terms, and such are all propositions wherein more comprehensive terms are predicated of less comprehensive, as genera of species or individuals.

2d. Wherever two abstract terms are predicated one of another, there the proposition carries no real knowledge in it, but is barely about the import of names. Were such trifling propositions as these shut out of discourses, the way to knowledge would be less perplexed with disputes than it is.

Chap. 9. Universal propositions, that have certain truth or falsehood in them, concern essences only. The knowledge of existence goes no farther than particulars of our own existences; it is plain we have such an intuitive knowledge, that nothing can be more evident.

Chap. 10. Of the existence of God there is demonstration, for which we need go no farther than ourselves for a proof, though God has given \* \* \* \* \*.

Chap. 11. The existence of all other things can be known only by the testimony of our senses; our knowledge reaches in this as far as our senses and no farther. For the existence of any other being having no necessary connexion with any of the ideas I have in my memory, I cannot from them infer the necessary existence of any

particular being, and can receive the knowledge of it only by the actual perception of my senses.

Chap. 12. For the improvement of our knowledge we must suit our methods to our ideas: in substances, where our ideas are but imperfect copies, we are capable of very little general knowledge, because few of our abstract ideas have a discoverable agreement or disagreement of co-existence, and therefore in substances we must enlarge our knowledge by experiment and observation in particulars; but in modes and relations where our ideas are archetypes, and real as well as nominal essences of species, there we attain general knowledge only by views of our own abstract ideas; and in them our inquiries not being concerning the agreement or disagreement of co-existence, but of other relations more discoverable than that of co-existence, we are capable of greater advances in knowledge: and that which is proposed for the improvement of it, is to settle in our minds clear and steady ideas, with their names or signs, and then to contemplate and pursue their connexions, and agreements, and dependencies—whether any method may be found out as useful in other modes as Algebra is in the ideas of quantity; for the discovery of their habitudes and relations cannot, beforehand, be determined; and therefore not to be despaired of. In the mean time, I doubt not but that Ethics might be improved to a much greater degree of certainty, if men, affixing moral names to clear and settled ideas, could with freedom and indifferency pursue them.

Chap. 13. Knowledge is not born with us, nor does it always force itself upon our understandings; animadversion and application is, in most parts of it, required, and that depends on the will; but when we have thoroughly surveyed, and to our utmost traced our ideas, it depends not then on our wills whether we will be knowing or ignorant.

Chap. 14. The shortness of our knowledge, not reaching to all the concernment we have, is supplied by that which we call judgment, whereby the mind takes ideas to agree or not agree; *i. e.* any proposi-

tion to be true or false, without perceiving a demonstrative evidence in the proofs.

Chap. 15. The ground on which such propositions are received for true, is what we call *probability*, and the entertainment the mind gives such propositions is called *assent*, *belief*, or *opinion*, which is the admitting any proposition to be true without certain knowledge that it is so. The grounds of probability are these two—1st. The conformity of any thing with our own knowledge, observation, or experience. 2d. The testimony of others, vouching their observation and experience.

Chap. 16. The variety of these in concurring or counterbalancing circumstances, affording matter for assent in several degrees of assurance or doubting, is too great to be set down in an extract.

Chap. 17. Error is not a fault of our knowledge, but a mistake of judgment, giving assent to what is not true; the causes whereof are these—

First. Want of proofs, whether such as may be, or as cannot be had.

Secondly. Want of ability to use them.

Thirdly. Want of will to use them.

Fourthly. Wrong measures of probability, which are these four—

1. Doubtful opinions taken for principles.
2. Received hypotheses.
3. Predominant passions.
4. Authority.

Chap. 18. Reason, that serves us to the discovery of both demonstration and probability, seems to me to have four parts—1st. The finding out of proofs. 2d. The laying them in their due order for the discovery of truth. 3d. In the perception of the more or less clear connexion of the ideas in each part of the deduction. 4th, and last of all, The drawing a right judgment and conclusion from the whole. By which it will appear that syllogism is not the great instrument of reason, it serving but only to the third of these, and



that only, too, to show another's wrong arguing; but it helps not reason at all in the search of new knowledge, nor the discovery of yet unknown truths, and the proofs of them, which is the chief use of that faculty, and not victory in dispute, or the silencing of wranglers.

Chap. 19. Faith is by some men so often made use of in opposition to reason, that he who knows not their distinct bounds will be at a loss in his inquiries concerning matters of religion.

Matters of reason are such propositions as may be known by the natural use of our faculties, and are deducible from ideas received from sensation or reflection. Matters of faith, such as are made known by supernatural revelation; the distinct principles and evidence of these two, being rightly considered, show where faith excludes or overrules reason, and where not.

1. Original revelation cannot be assented to contrary to the clear principles of our natural knowledge, because, though God cannot lie, yet it is impossible that any one, to whom a revelation is made, should know it to be from God more certainly than he knows such truths.

2. But original revelation may silence reason in any proposition, whereof reason gives but a probable assurance, because the assurance that it is a revelation from God may be more clear than any probable truth can be.

3. If original revelation cannot, much less can traditional revelation be assented to, contrary to our natural clear and evident knowledge; because, though what God reveals cannot be doubted of, yet he to whom the revelation is not originally made, but has only received it by the delivery or tradition of other men, can never so certainly know that it was a revelation made by God, nor that he understands the words aright in which it is delivered to him. Nay, he cannot know that he ever heard or read that proposition which is supposed revealed to another, so certainly as he knows those truths. Though it be a revelation that the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised, yet it not being revealed anywhere that such a

proposition, delivered by a certain man, is a revelation, the believing of such a proposition to be a revelation is not a matter of faith but of reason; and so it is if the question be, whether I understand it in the right sense.

According to these principles, I conclude all with a division of the sciences into three sorts—1st. Φυσική, or the knowledge of things, whether bodies or spirits, or of any of their affections in their true natures; the end of this is bare speculation. 2d. Πρακτική, or the rules of operation about things in our power, and principally those which concern our conduct; the end of this is action. 3d. Σημειωτική, or the knowledge of signs, *i. e.* ideas and words, as subservient to the other two, which, if well considered, would perhaps produce another kind of logic and critique than has yet been thought on.

At the end of Le Clerc's\* translation of the above abstract in the *Bibliothèque Universelle*, is the following notification, published evidently under Locke's immediate direction, and affording one amongst the many proofs of his sincerity in the search for truth.

“C'est là, l'extrait d'un ouvrage Anglois que l'auteur a bien voulu publier, pour satisfaire quelqu'uns de ses amis particuliers, et pour leur donner un abrégé de ses sentimens. Si quelqu'un de ceux qui prendront la peine de les examiner, croit y remarquer quelque endroit, où l'auteur se soit trompé, en quelque chose d'obscur, et de défectueux dans ce système, il n'a qu'à envoyer ses doutes, ou ses objections à Amsterdam, aux Marchands Libraires, chez qui s'imprime la Bibliothèque Universelle. Encore que l'auteur n'ait pas une grande envie de voir son ouvrage imprimé, et qu'il croie qu'on doit avoir plus de respect pour le public que de lui offrir d'abord ce que l'on croit être véritable, avant que de savoir si les autres l'agréront, ou le jugeront utile ; néanmoins il n'est pas si réservé, qu'on ne puisse espérer qu'il se disposera à donner au public son traité entier, lorsque la manière dont cet abrégé aura été reçu, lui donnera occasion de croire qu'il ne publiera pas mal à propos son ouvrage. Le lecteur pourra remarquer dans cet version quelques termes, dont on s'est servi dans un nouveau sens, ou qui n'avoient peut-être jamais paru dans aucun livre François. Mais il auroit été trop long de les exprimer par des periphrases, on a crut qu'en matière de philosophie il étoit bien permis de prendre en nôtre langue la même liberté, que l'on prend en cet occasion dans

\* Stated to be translated by Le Clerc, on his own authority, as I find in Mr. Locke's copy of that work these words in Le Clerc's handwriting :

“Tout ce qui est depuis le commencement jusqu'à la p. 261, est de moi. Vol. viii.



toutes les autres, c'est de former des mots analogiques quand l'usage commun ne fournit pas ceux dont on a besoin. L'auteur l'a fait en son Anglois, et on le peut faire en cette langue, sans qu'il soit nécessaire d'en demander permission au lecteur. Il seroit bien à souhaiter qu'on en pût autant faire en François, et que nous pussions éгалer dans l'abondance des termes une langue, que la nôtre surpasse dans l'exactitude de l'expression."

THOMAS BURNETT TO MR. LOCKE.

" WORTHY SIR,

London.

" I WAS SORRY I could not see you at my coming back from Tunbridge in September last, having called twice at your lodgings. I was necessitated to go to the country immediately thereafter, and made a ramble from the Bath through the West of England to Salisbury, and at last to Oxford, where the good society and most kind treatment from all I made acquaintance with, did charm me for more than three months, and made me at last leave that place with regret. I have lately received a letter from your worthy admirer Monsieur Leibnitz. He hath been kept back from making his returns to his correspondents this long time, having more to do in the public affairs of that country as I understand, from the new title I find given him, of Conseiller intime de S. A. E. de Brunswick. In this letter he gives a new proof of the esteem he hath of your writings, having writ seven or eight pages of his observations concerning your dispute with the Bishop of Worcester, and seeming to hold the balance betwixt your learned antagonist and you with all the fairness of an honest man, and the judgment of a philosopher; though the weight of what is thrown into the scales seems to make him incline sometimes to one side, sometimes to another. It appears he hath not yet seen the last letter of the Bishop's, nor your two last to him, though I have sent him all that was come out, with several books of other authors, by three packets at several times. There is a young gentleman who was here a long time to search for records relating to the House of Brunswick, for whom I did buy all the curious books that have come out these several years, with whom I have also sent all what he could not find himself out of my own library. He will open his pack at Hanover, and both the Electrix and Monsieur Leibnitz will see what books are for their service. In speaking to the certainty and clear-

ness of ideas, he pleases himself with the difference he makes betwixt the two terms of clear and distinct. That he calls clear, which can be differenced in our notion by a certain characteristic from all things besides itself. This knowledge he calls distinct, when we know a thing in its whole essence or nature with all its conditions and requisites, or when we can give its definition. So that the knowledge of substance, in so far as we know its certain differences and accidents, may be called clear, but cannot be termed distinct : but if I may add my own thoughts, this distinct notion is not applicable to any thing else we know, any more than it is to our ideas of substance ; since no human knowledge reaches a complete understanding of the nature of the most minute subject, reasoning so as to exhaust its whole nature, essence, and all that is to be known about it, no more than the understanding of the nature of the least grain of the dust we trample upon : this knowledge by comprehensive ideas is too wonderful for us, and can only belong to that infinite Being who is perfect in knowledge. Monsieur Leibnitz desires the names of all your works, that he may have all sent him. Now you are best able to inform him of that particular. I thought fit to acquaint you (Sir) with this letter, and of two long articles in it relating to the metaphysical subject of ideas, and your discourses of the coin also. I was transcribing all that belongs to these two parts, and sending them to you ; but I imagine you will be no less pleased to see the whole contexture of the letter itself, where there is an account of many other particulars that may be interesting. I need not send you the news of the town ; I only take the liberty to acquaint you of some particulars concerning Dr. Bentley's book, which is at last come out. He read to me a great part of the preface long before it was published, and I then thought his narration of the matter of fact (if he be to be believed *in verbo sacerdotis*) did justify very much his behaviour to Mr. Boyle at the beginning. And as to the controversy itself, if he, like many good judges, think he is able to defend himself against the reason, if not against the authority of his contrary party. He told me then the Bishop of Coventry and Litchfield was so far of his opinion, that he would publish something of his own at the same time upon the same subject, which he had kept by him many years ; wherein, though there were some small things wherein they dissented, the Bishop said it was so much the better, since thereby was taken away all suspicion of combination ; and that the Bishop himself would send the Doctor's book to Mons. Spanheim ; so that Greviùs, Mons. Spanheim, and that Bishop, a learned triumvirate,

seemed to be engaged on the Doctor's side. But I doubt not that a greater number will be of another sentiment, who would not be thought to be of the unlearned tribe ; and I heard yesterday morning from Mr. Gasterell that the Bishop of Coventry and Litchfield hath thought fit to suppress his own dissertation ; and that there would come forth an apology for the bookseller by himself within a day or two. The Doctor told me likewise, the Bishop thought Mr. Dodwell's opinion was wholly overturned upon this occasion, who founded his hypothesis upon the authenticity and the supposed antiquity of the Epistles of Phalaris. There is also come out, Master Gasterell's book, in 8vo., of the certainty of the Christian religion, as the second part of his Discourses intended upon Mr. Boyle's Lecture ; and I doubt not but will argue as much of the reason and judgment of the author as his sermons on that occasion. I have read over Doctor Bentley's long preface, and a great part of the book, and have just now finished the new piece that is come out against him, exposing his plagiary, ingratitude, and inhumanity, particularly to Mr. Stanley, in the edition (as the Doctor calls it himself) of his Callimachus. The bookseller's Vindication, and Letter of Dr. King's, and the Judgment of Sir Wm. Temple, &c. are annexed to the end. I do profess, upon second thoughts, (which sometimes are best,) I think, considering Doctor Bentley's magisterial and supercilious way of treating his adversaries, his hard words, and opprobrious language to Mr. Bennet ; and, on the other hand, Mr. Bennet's manner of justifying himself, and representing the matter in a sober and far less passionate, but more natural, narration of every thing, so that his story seemeth the more likely, if not the most true, of the two ; and though the Doctor may have both truth and learning on his side, he hath no ways shown the spirit of meekness in reproving, but rather hath made not only his own character but that of his order cheap, and \* \* \* \* by writing so much, and in such a manner to take off little reflections upon his civility and breeding, which he had easier wiped off by slighting and forgetting than answering. I have presumed to communicate to you these accounts, since I have them from immediate hands. I have sent you Mr. Leibnitz's letter, consisting of pieces I shall be glad to receive your orders, if you have any thing to charge me with, when you send back the papers, at which time I am to write again to Mr. Leibnitz. I did write to him from Oxford, at the same time Dr. Wallis received a line from him, which was six weeks ago ; and now lately



I did write with that gentleman, who is gone to Hanover, but he will expect I should write to him again, since the receipt of this I now send you, wherein (you see) he desires to know what things are unclear in what he did formerly write in the first paper of reflections I sent you. I have not been so well as to write to you sooner, since I had this last letter. To hear of your own health will be the best news to Mr. Leibnitz, and to, Sir, your most ready and most obliged,

And humble servant,

T. BURNETT."

" Pall-Mall Street, in London, 17th March, 1699."

" Sir, I thought once of sending this packet with Mr. Cunningham, who told me at my chambers some days ago he was to go out to you ; but now, after waiting longer than his set time, I was resolved to delay no longer. I wish you would indulge him before he leaves you to piece together his proofs of the Christian Religion, that the world may enjoy that light he hath so long promised. You may send back the papers to Mr. C., and I shall send for them ; or direct them for me at the Two Pigeons, on the east end of the Pall Mall."

This letter from Mr. Thomas to Locke was omitted at page 29. It is the one which led to the acquaintance with Lord Shaftesbury.

" MY DEAR FRIEND,

" THIS town is very barren of news, and therefore you must not expect much. The most considerable is, that the Commissions are granted for raising sixteen troops of horse ; amongst others to Lord Fairfax, Col. Inglesby, Sir W. Waller, &c. &c. The fleet will set sail the beginning of the next week, if the London be ready, but not without her, as I am now informed by a gentleman of Prince Rupert's, who came yesterday from the fleet, consisting, as he says, of eighty-nine sail, which are ready, and eighteen, or as some say twenty-five, fire-ships, which will be made thirty. After all the great noise of a press, I am informed that not above 2200 were sent from hence to the fleet. The Gazette will inform you of more, which is, the story of Capt. Reeves is true, and the King much troubled at it, and has given orders that the Captain, who was to be exchanged for him, be laid in irons.

“ I must request one favour of you, which is to send me word by the next opportunity whether you can procure twelve bottles of water for my Lord Ashley, to drink in Oxford Sunday and Monday mornings : if you can possibly do it, you will very much oblige him and me. I have this day spoke with C. Grant, and will give you an account of vipers by my next. I am to-morrow resolved to go for the fleet ; however, let me receive a letter by the next opportunity.

Your affectionate friend and servant,

DAVID THOMAS.”

“ Half-Moon Street, Bread Street.

“ 9 July, 1666.”

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# I N D E X.

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A	Page.		Page.
Adversaria Theologica . . . . .	336	Devonshire Sessions order . . . . .	145
Amor Patriæ . . . . .	291	Defence of Nonconformity . . . . .	341
Arguments positive and negative . . . . .	322	Des Cartes' proof of a God, examined . . . . .	312
Ashley, Lord, letter to Locke . . . . .	183	Disputatio . . . . .	285
----- . . . . .	188		
Armenian priest and service . . . . .	160	E	
B		Electio . . . . .	295
Bernier, Monsieur . . . . .	70	England in 1679, directions for a fo-	
Burnett, Thomas, letter to Locke . . . . .	400	reigner visiting . . . . .	133
		Enthusiasm . . . . .	315
C		Ethics in general . . . . .	305
Character of Locke . . . . .	275	Epitaph, Locke's . . . . .	262
Character of Locke, from Le Clerc . . . . .	267	Error . . . . .	281
Charles the Second's letter to Sir Geo.		Errors . . . . .	329
Downing . . . . .	38	Essay, first sketch of . . . . .	6
Christus non Deus Supremus . . . . .	338	Essay, additions intended to Book ii.	
Clergy . . . . .	289	c. 21. . . . .	354
Copy-right of Locke's Works . . . . .	265	----- to Book iii. c. 10 . . . . .	357
Common-place Book, extracts from . . . . .	281	Essay, Locke's view and abstract of . . . . .	362
		Excommunication . . . . .	297
D		Expulsion of Locke from Oxford . . . . .	147
Death, and last illness of Locke . . . . .	263	F	
Declaration of Charles the Second on		Fell, Bishop, to Locke . . . . .	152
Rye-house Plot . . . . .	140	Fontainebleau . . . . .	73



G		Page.		Page.
Grave, Pays de . . . . .		76	Locke's Letter to Mr. King . . . . .	256
			_____ . . . . .	257
			_____ . . . . .	258
			_____ . . . . .	259
			_____ . . . . .	260
			_____ Lord Somers . . . . .	244
			_____ . . . . .	245
			_____ . . . . .	247
			_____ Mr. Strachy . . . . .	13
			_____ . . . . .	25
			_____ . . . . .	26
			_____ Mr. Tyrrell . . . . .	197
			_____ Mr. Wynne . . . . .	191
			Longevity, instance of . . . . .	120
H				
Happiness . . . . .		115		
I				
Imagination, Madness, &c. . . . .		326		
Immortality of the soul . . . . .		127		
Journal begins . . . . .		41		
Journal in Holland . . . . .		160		
Journal dissertations in, begin at . . . . .		84		
Judging, Election, and Resolution . . . . .		296		
K			M	
Knowledge, its extent and measure . . . . .		84	Mackintosh, Sir James . . . . .	178
Knowledge, sorts of . . . . .		120	Madness . . . . .	328
			Marseilles . . . . .	63
L			Memory, Imagination, Madness . . . . .	326
Labadists . . . . .		162	Miscellaneous Papers . . . . .	296
Le Clerc's to Locke's letter . . . . .		318	Money, raising value of . . . . .	242
Lewis XIV at Versailles . . . . .		71		
_____ at Fontainebleau . . . . .		72		
_____ at a review . . . . .		79		
Leibnitz . . . . .		196		
Library at St. Germain's . . . . .		78		
Liberty of the Will, Locke to Le Clerc . . . . .		319		
Lincoln Bishop of, to the Earl of Shaftesbury . . . . .		194		
Lingua . . . . .		285		
Locke's Letter to Mr. Cudworth . . . . .		249		
_____ to his father . . . . .		2		
_____ to Lord Mordaunt . . . . .		173		
_____ to the Earl of Peterborough on Education . . . . .		4		
_____ to Newton . . . . .		224		
_____ Mr. King . . . . .		251		
_____ . . . . .		252		
_____ . . . . .		253		
_____ . . . . .		254		
_____ . . . . .		255		
			N	
			Nassau, reception of Prince of . . . . .	164
			Nismes . . . . .	48
			Newton's demonstration . . . . .	209
			Newton's Letter to Locke . . . . .	215
			_____ . . . . .	216
			_____ . . . . .	217
			_____ . . . . .	219
			_____ . . . . .	220
			_____ . . . . .	222
			_____ . . . . .	224
			_____ . . . . .	225
			Newton's Letters, remarks on, by Rev. Dr. Rees . . . . .	227
			Nonconformity, defence of, by Locke . . . . .	341
			O	
			Opinion . . . . .	136

P		Page.		Page.
Pacific Christians . . . . .		273	Space . . . . .	329
Paris . . . . .		69	—, Imaginary . . . . .	62
Penal Laws, obligation of . . . . .		57	Species of things . . . . .	321
Pembroke, Earl of, Letter to Locke . . . . .		158	Scriptura Sacra . . . . .	293
Petition of Locke to the King . . . . .		176	Scrupulosity . . . . .	109
Pembroke, Earl of, Letter to Locke . . . . .		158	Somers, Mr., Letter to Locke . . . . .	234
Peterborough, Earl of, Letter to Locke . . . . .		235	— . . . .	235
— . . . .		236	Somers, Lord, to Locke . . . . .	241
— . . . .		237	— . . . .	245
— . . . .		238	States of Languedoc . . . . .	52
— . . . .		239	Study, Dissertation on, by Locke . . . . .	90
— . . . .		240	Stillingfleet's, Dr., Controversy with Locke . . . . .	195
Prayer, Form of, as ordered Sept. 9, 1683 . . . . .		141	T	
Printing Act of 14th Charles II., Locke's Observations on . . . . .		201	Thus I think . . . . .	304
Power, Civil and Ecclesiastical, differ- ence between . . . . .		297	Toleration Act, and progress of Religious Liberty . . . . .	177
Protestants in France . . . . .		49	Toleration, Deficiency in the fourth let- ter supplied . . . . .	360
— . . . .		52	Toleration, Letter for, when written . . . . .	156
— . . . .		54	Trinitas, non Trinitas . . . . .	336
R			Trumbull's, Sir William, letter to Locke . . . . .	243
Reading, Method of . . . . .		116	Tyrrell, Mr., to Locke . . . . .	169
Recreation, Locke on . . . . .		323	— . . . .	170
Religion and Inspiration . . . . .		123	— . . . .	172
Religious Opinions of Locke . . . . .		273	— . . . .	192
Relation and Space . . . . .		331	V	
Review of French Guards . . . . .		73	Versailles . . . . .	71
— Swiss ditto . . . . .		79	Visitation, Episcopal, usual effects of . . . . .	133
S			W	
Sacerdos, spirit of the order . . . . .		285	Works, List of Locke's . . . . .	264
Shaftesbury, Earl of, to Locke . . . . .		33	— enumerated in his Will . . . . .	265
— . . . .		36	Worcester, Controversy with the Bishop of . . . . .	193
— . . . .		138	Wynne's, Mr., Letter to Locke . . . . .	189
Shaftesbury, Earl of, (3d) to Locke . . . . .		183		
— . . . .		186		

# ERRATA.

Page 27	line 39	for	considedation	read	consideration.
30	— 34	for	the Lord	read	this Lord.
75	— 18	for	taile	read	taille.
122	— 8	for	s'offence	read	s'offensent.
133	— 24	for	direction appears	read	directions appear.
240	— 14	for	Calais	read	Cales or Cadiz.
291	—	for	PATRIA	read	PATRIE.

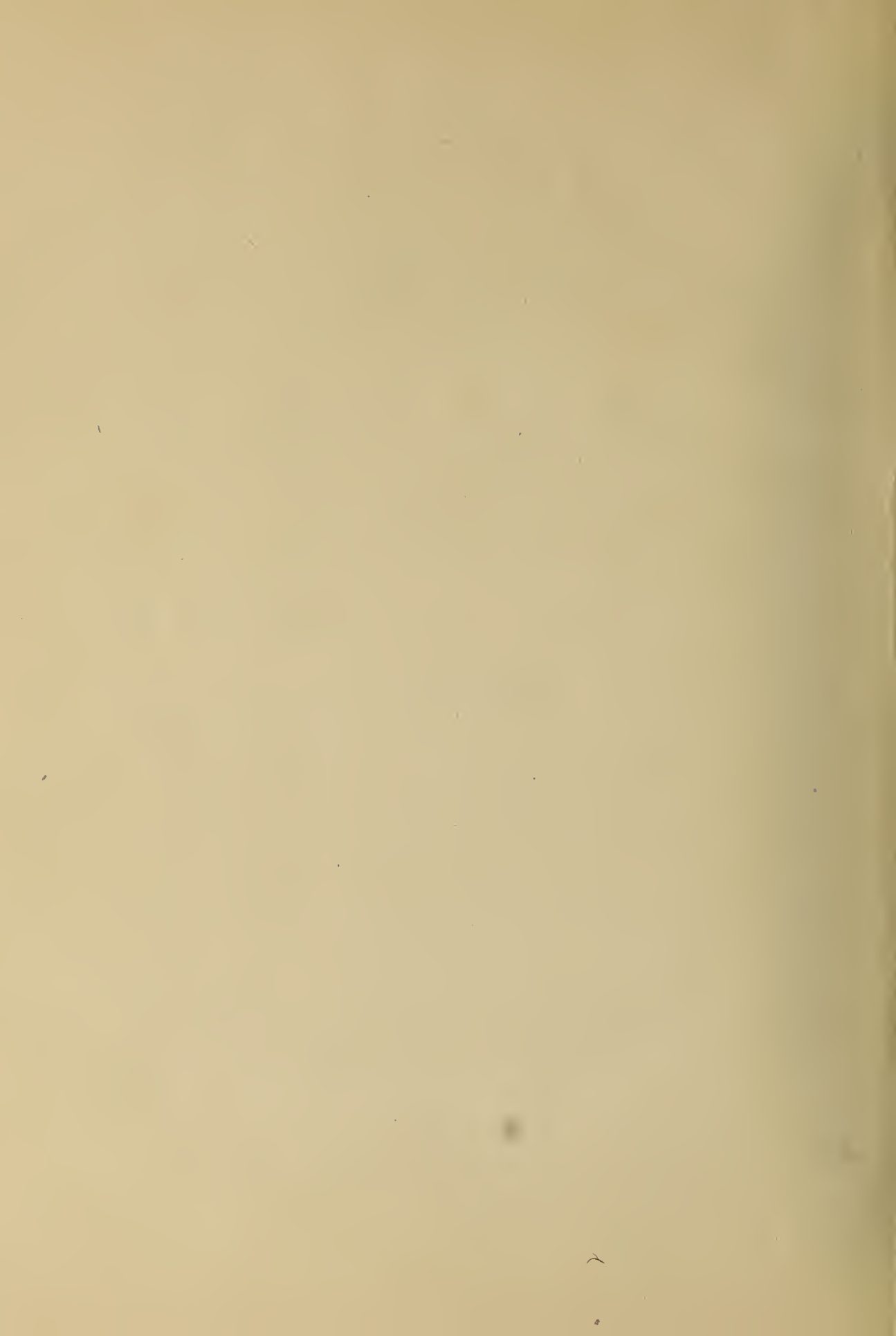














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